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SOUTH PACIFIC MEETING OPENS 9 FEB IN CHILE

Peru's Schwalb Arrives

PY091433 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Peruvian Foreign Minister Fernando Schwalb has arrived in Chile. In his first statement, Schwalb said that he is very pleased to be in a country that was a pioneer in the defense of maritime rights.

Schwalb was met at the Commodore Arturo Medina Benitez Airport by Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle.

He will participate in the meetings of the standing committee of the South Pacific Commission, which will be taking place this week in Vina del Mar.

Also present at the airport were Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa, Peruvian Ambassador Luis Bustamante, and other high-ranking officials.

Chile's Del Valle Opens Meeting

PY091804 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Chilean, Peruvian, Ecuadoran, and Colombian foreign ministers are now lunching with President Pinochet at the Cerro Castillo residence in Vina del Mar. Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has been appointed president of the South Pacific Permanent Commission. The following is a report from the Miramar Hotel in Vina del Mar by (Maria Manuel Orgis).

[Begin (Orgis) relay] Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has been appointed president of the South Pacific Permanent Commission for a 4-year period. He took over the post from Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda during the opening ceremony of the second South Pacific Permanent Commission foreign ministers conference, which is being held at the Miramar Hotel in Vina del Mar.

In the speech that he delivered at the opening session, Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle noted that this session marks the starting point of a new, important stage for this organization, which was originally established over 30 years ago to defend and to promote at the international level the legitimate rights of coastal countries over vast adjacent seas and over abundant sea resources. He added that these resources guarantee the economic development of our nations.

Del Valle noted that the convention of the sea marks the end of the first stage of the South Pacific Permanent Commission. He said that this must be followed by a second historic stage that must be characterized by the implementation of those measures and policies that resulted from this successful undertaking. He added that the commission will demand the same political commitment that was the basis of this success and an example of what Latin American countries can achieve when they unite their efforts to achieve a common, higher objective. [end recording]

CAPUTO: 'NOTHING TO SAY' ON U.S.-BRAZIL PACT

PY100158 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2332 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 9 Feb (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today announced that the government has decided to evacuate the Argentine Embassy in Beirut due to the dramatic and painful situation in the area. Caputo spoke to the press at the end of an audience granted him by President Raul Alfonsin.

Caputo said that the government is preparing its reply to Great Britain, adding that the reply would be disclosed next week.

He said that the Argentine Government has nothing to say about the treaty signed between Brazil and the United States, noting that although the treaty is concerned with manufacturing weapons and industrial items, it is not a defense treaty.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON FALKLANDS, FOREIGN TRIPS

PY091406 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1847 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 8 Feb (TELAM) -- At a meeting with journalists accredited to the Foreign Ministry, Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo said that we believe that [the deployment] of a UN force is the proper procedure to solve the present situation [in the Falklands]. He added that the resumption of any negotiations must be based on defortifying the islands and upholding Argentine rights over the South Atlantic islands.

Caputo noted that the British Government must have other intentions because, despite the fact that President Alfonsin's proposal has helped to find a path to resolve the Malvinas issue, and that some sectors in Britain have found the proposal reasonable, the British Government rejected Alfonsin's proposal to send a UN peacekeeping force only a few hours after the president made the proposal.

He added: At this time we reassert our negotiating proposal, and we will make every effort and set forth our finest will to return to the situation existing before 2 April 1982. However, he noted that any negotiations with the United Kingdom will be unacceptable if they do not consider Argentine rights over the islands.

Caputo also noted that in March and June, President Alfonsin will visit two countries, one in America and one in Europe, but he refused to specify which. However, according to rumors circulating last weekend Alfonsin will visit Brazil and Spain.

At the end of February Caputo will go to Geneva, and from there he will travel to Mexico where he will hold two working meetings with his Mexican counterpart Bernardo Sepulveda. During the first week of May, Caputo is scheduled to visit Spain, where he will meet with Spanish Foreign Minister Moran, and from Spain he will go to Austria.

Caputo also announced that in addition to the Indian president, who will visit our country at the suggestion of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the Italian and Mexican presidents will also visit Argentina in April. He noted that the same procedure that has been adopted under similar circumstances will be followed and that, therefore, a Foreign Ministry and Trade Secretariat delegation will go to New Delhi in March to prepare for the Indian president's visit to Argentina.

Although it has not yet been confirmed, the Czechoslovak foreign minister is also scheduled to visit Argentina in April. In addition to the visit of the FRG foreign minister, who is scheduled to arrive in Buenos Aires on Saturday with a large entourage, there is also a possibility that Caputo will meet with his Italian colleague, Foreign Minister Craxi.

Foreign Minister Caputo is scheduled to make another trip abroad next month, but for protocol reasons he was unable to disclose the name of the country. However, he announced that a European Common Market delegation, made up of seven or eight persons, will visit our country from 21 to 23 February.

Regarding the alleged transportation of arms to the Malvinas by Spanish flag ships in exchange for fishing permits in the area, the foreign minister said that the Spanish Embassy in Buenos Aires will issue a denial in this regard within a few hours.

CAPUTO NOTES VATICAN ASKS SILENCE ON BEAGLE

PY091229 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has told the press that the Vatican has requested that Argentina and Chile be very cautious in remarks about the basic problems of the Beagle Channel dispute.

Regarding the Malvinas, Caputo thinks that President Raul Alfonsin's proposal, which was made known during his trip to Caracas, will help in finding the appropriate channel for negotiations with Great Britain.

GARCIA MEZA, ARCE GOMEZ REPORTEDLY IN BOLIVIA

PY100142 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1922 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Feb (DYN) -- Former Bolivian President [Luis Garcia Meza] and his interior minister, Luis Arce Gomez, whose capture and deportation were ordered by the Argentine Government on Monday, are reportedly taking refuge in their own country at a ranch in Santa Cruz de la Sierra that is owned by drug traffickers, diplomatic sources have reported.

The sources, who based their assertion on intelligence reports rated as "totally reliable," also reported that the two former military officers must have received "some kind" of aid in Salta Province, located along the Bolivian border, from which they crossed to Bolivia avoiding both Argentine and Bolivian authorities.

According to the intelligence reports, both Garcia Meza and Arce Gomez decided to leave the country when they learned a few days ago of President Raul Alfonsin's decision to reconsider the status of the two exiles and the "special consideration" given to them by the previous military authorities, to whom both officers were closely linked.

Both of them agreed that the "safest" place to hide was Bolivia itself, where Arce Gomez' uncle, Roberto Suarez Gomez, called the "cocaine king," owns large areas with coca plantations and cocaine manufacturing factories. These areas are almost inaccessible and they are guarded by private armies with even more sophisticated weapons than those of the Bolivian forces.

The sources also said that the recent petitions for court protection for the two former military officers, who have been discharged by the Bolivian Army, were "smokescreens" to distract the government's attention while both of them departed Buenos Aires for the northern part of the country. It is believed that the two of them managed to escape their surveillance and that after arriving in Salta they were helped to cross the border and to enter Bolivia.

CONGRESS APPROVES AMENDMENTS TO MILITARY CODE

PY091822 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1649 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Feb (NA) -- The amendments to the Military Code of Laws were approved by the Radical Civic Union majority at 1340 today. The majority approved general and specific terms of the bill while Peronists, Intransigents, and Christian Democrats abstained. The bill had been relayed by the Senate after it had made a few changes; it will now go to the executive branch to be promulgated.

FORMER OFFICIALS RESTRAINED FROM LEAVING COUNTRY

PY091811 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1017 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 9 Feb (TELAM) -- The national executive branch yesterday informed the Chamber of Deputies of an Interior Ministry resolution under which 46 persons, among whom are all the members of the military juntas that ruled the country between 1976 and 1983, must submit a certificate proving that no court warrants restrict their movement before they are allowed to leave the country.

The official note was signed by Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli. It pointed out that it is intended as an answer to a resolution approved by the Chamber of Deputies on 12 January stating that this body would be greatly pleased if the national executive branch were to take the necessary legal steps before the appropriate organizations in order to restrain government officials who worked for the de facto regime up until 10 December 1983 and who could be responsible for illegal activities from leaving the country.

In answer, the interior minister attached to the note a copy of Resolution 137 of the Interior Ministry ordering strict control of departures of these 46 persons. The resolution points out that whenever any of these persons shows up at immigration checkpoints, those in charge of the checkpoint will contact the Interior, Defense, and Education and Justice Ministries in order to find out whether any court warrants could prevent the person from leaving the country.

The list includes the former members of the military juntas: Jorge Rafael Videla, Orlando Agosti, Emilio Massera, Roberto Viola, Armando Lambruschini, Jorge Rubens Graffigna, Leopoldo Galtieri, Jorge Anaya, Arturo Lami Dozo, Reynaldo Bignone, Cristino Nicolaides, Augusto Hughes, and Ruben Franco.

It also includes retired Generals Albano Harguindeguy, Horacio Liendo, Alfredo Oscar Saint Jean, Liamil Reston, Edmundo Ojeda, Juan Bautista Sasiain, Ramon Camps, Carlos Suarez Mason, Luis Martella, Antonio Bussi, Luciano Menandez, Fernando Verplaetsen, Carlos Rovere, Iberico Saint Jean, Agdel Vilas, Federico Minicucci, Miguel Angel Iniguez, and Otto Paladino.

Also on the list are Colonels Ernesto Trotz, Roberto Roualdes, Ferro, Mohamed Ali Seineldin, and Jorge Osinde; Navy officers Ruben Chamorro, Horacio Zaratiegui, Alfredo Astiz, Jorge Perren, former Corporal Vilarino, former NCO Jose Ladba (or Labra), and civilians Anibal Gordon, Jose Lopez Rega, Jose Maria Villone, and Rodolfo Peregrino Fernandez.

EVIDENCE OF EX-GOVERNMENT'S MISMANAGEMENT SOUGHT

PY091647 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1209 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 Feb (NA) -- The Argentine Government has ordered an investigation into "economic crimes and administrative irregularities" that may have been committed by officials of the defunct military regime. Thus, the national executive branch has ordered that any evidence available regarding alleged crimes and administrative irregularities harmful to public property, which may have been committed by officials of the regime which wielded power from 24 March 1976 to 10 December 1983, should be conveyed to the office of the State Prosecutor for Administrative Affairs.

The national executive branch also instructed public organizations and state agencies that any documents or other evidence that they may have concerning crimes of this nature should be conveyed as soon as possible to the office of the State Prosecutor for Administrative Affairs.

Decree No 488 released last night added that this in no way jeopardizes the right of any individual to report irregularities or to supply any evidence that he may consider appropriate in connection with the above-mentioned crimes.

TRANSPORT UNION CHIEF VOWS TO CONTINUE STRIKE

PY090250 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2113 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Feb (TELAM) -- Rene Azar, head of the Motor Transport Workers Union [UTA], has asserted that they will continue to strike no matter how much it costs because it represents a just demand of the workers and not simply the leaders' whim.

Azar made his statement in front of the Labor Ministry at the end of a rally that gathered about 200 long-distance bus workers to reject the ministry's decision to declare illegal the strike that started last Friday. Azar reiterated that the union has declared itself in permanent session and declared, "I will submit my resignation when I deem it appropriate to show that this is not just a leader's whim nor a political measure but a just demand of the workers."

CGT RATIFIES CALL FOR RALLY ON 10 FEBRUARY

PY091209 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The General Confederation of Labor [CGT] yesterday ratified its call for a rally to be held on 10 February at 1700 [2000 GMT]. It will take place at the intersection of Avenida de Mayo and 9 de Julio Avenue here in the federal capital. From there the people will march to Congress, where the law on the reorganization of the labor sector is to be debated.

The CGT, whose executive board met for 2 hours, has released a communique signed by Saul Ubaldini. The communique indicates that the objective of the rally is to support the CGT-drafted proposal for reorganizing the labor sector.

Peronists Support Rally

PY091520 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1237 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 8 Feb (NA) -- The Justicialist Party [JP] has decided to support the rally called by the CGT [General Confederation of Labor]. The rally is to be held on Friday to protest the draft law on the reorganization of the labor sector that will be debated that day by the Chamber of Deputies. It has also called on all its supporters "to be in the Plaza del Congreso" and to mobilize to "demand their rights." It has also expressed its repudiation of the government's economic and social policies, saying that they are a continuation of the policies implemented by "the military dictatorship."

In a communique released last night after 4 hours of debate, the JP ratified its "vocation in wanting to strengthen democracy within a framework of mutual respect, because democracy is the patrimony of everyone." The top Justicialist leaders reiterated their support for the negotiations that the Justicialist blocs in the Chamber of Deputies and in the Senate are carrying out regarding the controversial draft, and they have called for an extraordinary session of the Federal Council for tomorrow at 1900 [2200 GMT].

The following are the five points of the declaration released yesterday by the Peronist leadership:

"1. To repudiate the economic and social policies implemented by the military dictatorship.

"2. In view of the situation, to ratify the support given to the position of the Justicialist blocs in the Chamber of Deputies and Senate.

"3. To support the rally called by the CGT, which is to be held Friday, and to invite all Peronist militants to participate so it will have a massive nature.

"4. To call an extraordinary session of the Federal Council Thursday (tomorrow) at 1900 [2200 GMT].

"5. To ratify our unconditional vocation for defending democracy."

The five points are preceeded by an introduction in which Peronism charges that the policies of the military regime that provoke "unemployment, hunger, and misery" still persist together with an intention to "dismantle the organizations of the labor movement."

In this respect, Peronism also maintains that the Radical government "is not keeping its election promises, that it is violating international norms regarding union organization, and that it is applying methods that the governing party repudiated in the Multiparty Group."

The release of the Justicialist declaration was delayed until it was known that the CGT had decided to call for a rally in front of Congress to "repudiate" the draft on the reorganization of the labor sector.

BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT GIVES DINNER, HOLDS TALKS

Siles, Figueiredo Speak

PY091422 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] As of Tuesday all official activity was transferred to Santa Cruz, where Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo was received with the honors befitting his high position.

The presidential visit is about to end after a series of talks held at the highest level -- Figueiredo-Siles -- and at the level of ministerial commissions. The two chiefs of state have discussed several topics, according to a very carefully prepared agenda.

Radio Panamericana has been reporting regularly on the important events taking place in Santa Cruz through its correspondent in that city. News on last night's events are provided in this dispatch by our correspondent in Santa Cruz.

[Begin relay] Radio Panamericana reports from Santa Cruz. In accordance with the established agenda, the Brazilian president last night gave a dinner for his Bolivian counterpart. Reporters were only allowed to take photographs under the simple, but severe, controls of personnel of the Brazilian and Bolivian security departments. During the dinner the Brazilian president stated: The fraternal welcome accorded to us by the historic and hospitable City of Santa Cruz de la Sierra inspires in us warm thanks for the generous people of Bolivia, its government, and Your Excellency.

The wealth and diversity of Bolivia's history are testimony to the tenacity and valor of its people. It has been the scenario of a great struggle for freedom. Bolivia, in the dreams of Sucre and Simon Bolivar, has always nurtured the desire for a just, peaceful, and fraternal order. At a time when Latin America finds itself at one of its historical crossroads, the ideals, example, and works of General Sucre, a forefather of Bolivian independence, grow before the eyes of everyone.

The Brazilian president also stated that Brazil has reaffirmed that conflicts must be resolved through peaceful means, through negotiations based on the political desire for overcoming disputes. These negotiations will promote an effective dialogue and conditions for substantial agreements acceptable to the parties and will be acknowledged by the international community. [end relay]

The Brazilian president made other statements that are now highlighted by our correspondent in Santa Cruz.

[Begin relay] The Brazilian president also stated in his speech that cooperation in the agricultural and agroindustrial cooperative systems and the distribution of production are factors of great social and economic sensitivity and are of great importance in two agricultural countries such as ours. Therefore, this cooperation is outstanding due to its importance for the progress of our two nations. We are open to initiatives regarding the transport sector and the construction of roads and measures that will increase the flow of our bilateral trade, whether it be through an increase in direct sales or through joint projects. The financial links between our countries can benefit an increase in bilateral trade and stimulate important sectors. [end relay]

Our correspondent will now convey the highlights of President Siles' speech.

[Begin relay] These technical commissions have also evaluated the possibilities of projects in various Bolivian and Brazilian fields which in the end will benefit our people.

The president stated: it has been a great pleasure to hold talks with Your Excellency, in an atmosphere of affection and cordiality, on overall bilateral economic and political relations within a framework of understanding that highlights the historical fraternity of our two peoples. Thanking you for this gesture, which carries the sign of fraternity, that is inspired in the common destiny that units people -- freedom, social justice, and democracy -- I propose a toast for the prosperity of Brazil, its people and government, and I also wish you and your wife great happiness. [end relay].

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 0307 GMT on 9 February carried the following additional information on President Figueiredo's speech.

["Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo today indicated that he supports the efforts of the Contadora Group for seeking the bases for a solution to the acute crisis in Central America."

["Figueiredo said that 'Central America is a painful and concrete example of a Latin America that is overcome with confrontations,' and he reaffirmed his country's position that conflicts must be resolved peacefully.

["He indicated that the Contadora Group's efforts favoring peace in the Central American isthmus have an ethical and authentic Latin American essence.

["He stated that Latin America is fully aware of its difficulties, needs, and potential, and he is pondering the initiative of Ecuadoran President Osvaldo Hurtado in calling for the meeting recently in Quito to evaluate the scope of the crisis and the probable measures to be adopted to face the critical crisis."]

Joint Declaration Issued

PY100200 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Announcer-read "summary" of joint declaration signed by Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo and Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, on 9 February]

[Text] The two presidents have highlighted the right of all nations [words indistinct] in the world community, in accordance with the basic principles of international law and in the determination of the basic principles of international law [as heard] and the determination of Bolivia and Brazil to conduct their foreign relations in an atmosphere of peace, confidence, and respect with an eye to achieving the priority goals of the welfare of their inhabitants and an independent and sovereign overall development.

The two presidents highlighted the 1980 Montevideo Treaty that created the Latin American Integration Association and they also pointed out the importance of stimulating the Latin American Economic System and other forums. They reiterated their allegiance to the principle of peaceful settlement of controversies, a principle that Latin American countries have always respected. They pointed to the existence of many agreements which, at a regional level, have reflected compliance with this principle. These agreements are an essential part of the Latin American political heritage.

The joint declaration also stresses that the improvement of democratic institutions is another Latin American ideal. The presidents agreed that the two governments are strongly committed to fulfilling this aspiration. In this regard, they reiterated that basic human rights, which include political and socioeconomic rights, must be respected. They stated that a more positive attitude by the industrialized nations, within the framework of world efforts aimed at achieving development, could markedly strengthen human rights in developing countries.

The two presidents stressed the successful outcome of the 14th meeting held by the foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin in Asuncion on 1 and 2 December 1983, and of the second meeting that the foreign ministers of the signatory countries of the Treaty of Amazon Cooperation held in Santiago de Cali on 7 and 8 December 1983. The presidents reiterated their support for the Declaration of Belem, signed on 24 October 1980, and for the latest decisions adopted as guidelines for regional cooperation in the Amazonian region, which were set forth in the Declaration of Cali, signed on 8 December 1983.

They decided to coordinate efforts for the preparation of the meeting to be held by the Amazonian Cooperation Council in Bolivia in 1984.

The two presidents agreed that the joint efforts aimed at improving integration and cooperation mechanisms at a subregional level, particularly in the Amazon and River Plate regions, which include Bolivian and Brazilian territory, must be continued. In this regard, the two presidents pointed out that Bolivia, as a nation whose territory includes parts of the Amazon, the River Plate, and the Andean regions, plays an influential role as a center of contact for those subregions. They also voiced their determination to contribute to improving regional integration even further. They voiced their satisfaction over the level of the contacts that the two governments maintained in 1983, especially the visits paid to Brazil by the Bolivian ministers of foreign affairs, planning, transportation, and finance, and the meetings held by bilateral technical committees, which were entrusted with the mission of analyzing the possibility of implementing cooperation programs in the agriculture and livestock, iron and steel, and transportation sectors.

The two presidents voiced their satisfaction at the renegotiation of the debt that the Bolivian public sector owes Brazil, in keeping with the terms of the memorandum of understanding signed on 18 October 1983 by the Brazilian finance minister and the Bolivian foreign minister, and in keeping with the terms of the agreement signed by the central banks of the two countries on 8 February 1984.

They also expressed their satisfaction with the following positive aspects of the relations between the two countries:

1. The talks held by the central banks of the two countries, during which the possibility of increasing the credit ceiling granted to the technical sector, a ceiling that was established by the reciprocal credit agreement, was considered.

2. The Bolivian Government's willingness to issue regulations aimed at solving the problem of the private sector's foreign debt, which has been channeled through the Bolivian and Brazilian banking systems. In this regard, the two countries agreed to form a joint group that will list, reconcile, and classify those debts in a period that should not exceed 90 days.

3. The Bolivian Central Bank's commitment to update payments on the Bolivian public sector's overdue obligations with the Banco do Brasil and CACEX [Foreign Trade Department].

4. The agreement reached by the central banks of the two countries to take the necessary steps leading to the implementation of a reciprocal credit agreement for making payments on future commercial obligations. Concerning the interconnection of highways between the two countries, the presidents agreed to jointly support the requests for financial resources from the IDB, pointing out that they will also support the implementation of projects of mutual interest, such as the La Paz-Guajara Mirim and La Paz-Cobija Highways, the latter in Bolivian territory, and the Porto Velho-Rio Branco Highway and the branch roads to Guajara-Mirim and Brasilia in Brazilian territory.

Concerning the railway interconnection project joining Aiquile and Santa Cruz de la Sierra, the two presidents decided that railway technicians of the two countries will meet in the second half of March 1984, in the city of Cochabamba, to determine under what terms the corresponding studies can be resumed and the contribution that each side will make, in keeping with existing agreements on the matter.

They also reiterated their interest in furthering bilateral cooperation in the iron and steel sector. In response to a request from the Bolivian Government, the Brazilian Government expressed its willingness to implement, within 90-days, special cooperation programs dealing with technical and financial matters and with other aspects of the Bolivian iron and steel project.

The presidents expressed their satisfaction over the signing of a supplementary adjustment agreement that will make it possible, under the mentioned financial facilities granted by CACEX, to carry out the feasibility studies and the final design work and the supervision of the construction of the Cachuela Esperanza hydroelectric project, which has been deemed a priority by the Bolivian Government.

The Brazilian president was very pleased that the contract for the construction of the important (Timore)-Yapacani Highway, which will be financed with IDB resources and which will substantially improve the transportation system between eastern and western Bolivia, was awarded to a Brazilian firm in international public bidding.

The presidents expressed their interest in increasing Bolivian exports to Brazil, to even the balance of trade, and to facilitate mutually advantageous operations, such as the adoption of clearing facilities that should raise the level of exchange and reduce the need for convertible currency. They therefore instructed the Bolivian-Brazilian General Coordination Committee to take the necessary steps during 1984.

The Bolivian and Brazilian presidents pointed to the following achievements in the area of technical cooperation and exchange:

1. The signing of a supplementary document of adjustment of the basic technical and scientific agreement. The document deals with the improvement of the production, processing, and sale of rubber; it lays the groundwork for a broader exchange of experience, personnel, technology, information, and equipment; for the sponsoring of seminars, training course, and scholarships; and for the allocation of resources for specific areas.

2. The signing of a supplementary document of adjustment of the basic technical and scientific cooperation agreement, concerning the agricultural and livestock sector and the agricultural industry.

A working group has been formed to take care of the implementation of irrigation and drainage programs.

3. The signing of a supplementary document of adjustment of the basic technical and scientific cooperation agreement concerning the health sector. The corresponding program will be implemented by the Brazilian Health Ministry, by the Brazilian Oswaldo Cruz Institute, and by the Bolivian Ministry of Social Security and Health.

4. The signing of a supplementary document of adjustment of the basic technical and scientific cooperation agreement, foreseeing the promotion of technical and scientific cooperation between the two countries.

5. The signing of a general cooperation agreement in the steelmaking sector between SIDERSA [Bolivian Iron and Steel Enterprise] and SIDERBRAS [Brazilan Iron and Steel Inc]. This agreement establishes means, mechanisms, and procedures for the promotion of areas of common interest, and for encouraging technological, scientific, and commercial exchange.

6. The signing of an agreement whereby the Sao Paulo University and its subsidiary Foundation for the Development of Engineering Technology will render their services to Bolivian organizations.

7. The intention of maintaining, through the proper organizations and agencies of the two countries, an exchange of criteria, information, and advice on current matters dealing with [word indistinct].

8. The intention of jointly considering, through their respective ministries of mines, the signing of a cooperation and technical assistance agreement dealing with specific areas, such as the prospecting, extraction, concentration, processing, and sale of their principal mineral resources.

9. The intention of promoting the exchange of experience and information on the management and operation of airports, particularly taking into account the proposal that has been submitted in connection with the Viru Viru Airport.

The two presidents also underlined the progress achieved in the technical work dealing with the investigation and development of Bolivian gas fields; in the economic and engineering studies for the Santa Cruz-Sao Paulo gas pipeline; in the evaluation of natural gas reserves; and in the technical and economic analyses of the Bolivian iron and steel program, of the cement and fertilizer manufacturing plant, and of the petrochemical projects. In this regard, the two heads of state agreed that commissions representing each country should continue the negotiations, taking into account the following additional guidelines: Concerning gas, natural gas exports to Brazil will begin in the quantities that were established in 1974 and will be increased by mutual agreement up to the quantity established in 1978.

As far as hydroelectric power is concerned, Brazil will participate in the international bidding for the construction of hydroelectric plants and multiple-purpose projects in Bolivia, in keeping with the timetable of the Comprehensive Plan for the Development of Bolivian Energy Sources, which includes the Cachuela Esperanza, (Acahuaya), (Uyicuni), (Icla), Villa Montes, (Cachafea), and Rosita projects. The objective of Brazilian participation will be to promote the commercial exchange resulting from the supply of gas, and to cooperate with the implementation of the Bolivian policy of development of energy sources.

The two presidents also voiced their satisfaction over the promotion of trade between PETROBRAS and YPFB [Bolivian Government Oil Deposits], which will result in an increase of Bolivian liquefied petroleum gas exports to Brazil, from 40,000 tons annually in 1984 to 100,000 tons annually in 1985. In addition, negotiations will be started over the purchase of PETROBRAS of aviation fuel produced by YPFB.

The Bolivian president told his Brazilian counterpart about the principles underlying his policy in search for friendly and satisfactory solutions for Bolivia's landlocked situation. The Brazilian president reiterated that Brazil is confident that a peaceful, friendly, and satisfactory solution will be found in this case. At the end of his visit, president Figueiredo underlined the significance of the talks held with President Hernan Siles Zuazo, and expressed his satisfaction over the fraternal and cordial atmosphere in which their talks took place. He warmly thanked President Siles and the Bolivian Government and people for their generous hospitality, which attests to the unalterable friendship joining Bolivia and Brazil.

The Brazilian president extended an invitation to President Hernan Siles Zuazo to pay an official visit to Brazil on a mutually agreeable date. The Bolivian president accepted the invitation with great satisfaction.

GARCIA MEZA, ARCE GOMEZ EXTRADITION DEMANDED

Congress Wants Trial

PY091814 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1632 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 9 Feb (EFE) -- The Bolivian Congress has demanded that the government of President Hernan Siles Zuazo ask for the extradition of former President Luis Garcia Meza and his former interior minister, Luis Arce Gomez, so that they can be brought to trial in this country.

A motion of the Chamber of Deputies urges the executive branch to request the extradition of the two former military officers, who are being tried for murder and embezzlement.

Argentina To Expel

PY091754 Paris AFP in Spanish 1504 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 9 Feb (AFP) -- Bolivian Foreign Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado today said in Santa Cruz, 1,000 km east of La Paz, that the decision of the Argentine Government to expel former Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza and his Interior Minister Luis Arce Gomez is a sovereign action of the Argentine Government and that the Bolivian Government has nothing to do with it.

This was the first official Bolivian reaction to President Raul Alfonsin's recent decision to withdraw the temporary residence permit and asylum granted to the leaders of the bloody 17 July 1980 coup d'etat staged to overthrow then Bolivian President Lidia Gueiler Tejada.

ARMED FORCES CHIEF ON U.S. MILITARY COOPERATION

PY091229 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] After noting the importance of the memorandum signed by the two countries, General Waleir Vasconcellos, the Armed Forces chief of staff, has noted that U.S.-Brazilian military cooperation must improve.

EDITORIAL ANALYZES U.S. CHARGES OF STEEL DUMPING

PY091116 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 7 Feb 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Brazilian Steel in the United States"]

[Text] Brazilian-U.S. trade continues to be hindered by the protectionist measures that the U.S. Government has adopted following the charges of dumping leveled in connection with some Brazilian exports, whose prices were said to have been artificially lowered. This has allegedly harmed U.S. steel producers trying to sell on the U.S. market.

A recent significant case is the imposition of countervailing duties -- a customs surtax -- on Brazilian carbon steel exports. This measure has weakened the position of the Brazilian steel industry as a supplier of the U.S. market.

By defending itself against the charge of dumping before the U.S. Department of Commerce, Brazil will try to have that surtax removed. That defense must not be based on secondary aspects of the question. To prove "dumping" the United States usually checks to see whether export prices are lower than domestic prices of steel. This creates long discussions about the existence of tax or financing subsidies, either implicit or explicit. The discussions usually also digress into sectorial price policies adopted by the Brazilian Government concerning exchange rates and similar things.

That the external competitiveness of some products is boosted through fiscal and financial practices established by Brazilian foreign trade policy can even be admitted. However, in the end that is not the case with steel, because the country's competitiveness abroad depends rather on human, natural, and technical resources existing at home, not on export subsidies.

Analyses of the world steel-making sector have demonstrated that these factors underlie the real, not the artificial, capacity for Brazilian exports to penetrate the international market. It is possible, however, that Brazilian foreign trade practices may be providing arguments for dumping charges, without going to the root of the question.

It is up to the Brazilian Government to review those practices, something that it is already doing as attested by recent measures reducing credit subsidies to exporters. This effort can nonetheless prove ineffective if the United States continues to give in to the "lobby" of its producers, seeking to impose protectionist measures which can only be justified on cursory evidence of dumping.

The unhindered development of international trade demands that developed countries should accept that some of their industrial sectors are handed down, so to say, to developing countries, so that they can generate resources to pay their debts and to buy goods and services that are not available internally. Steelmaking is recognized as one of those sectors.

What is at stake transcends the discussion of dumping practices related to this or that product. At stake is something that has to do with the country's economic development and its ability to pay a foreign debt that leaps upwards with jumbo loans. Paradoxically, these big loans are granted by the same nations that create additional difficulties for the repayment of such loans.

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO RETURNS FROM BOLIVIA 9 FEB

PY092203 Paris AFP in Spanish 2006 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Brasilia, 9 Feb (AFP) -- Ending a 3-day official visit to Bolivia, Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo arrived here today from Santa Cruz de la Sierra. Figueiredo met his Bolivian counterpart, Hernan Siles Zuazo, and examined with him the possibilities of intensifying cooperation between the two countries.

AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON AUTHORIZED TO EVACUATE

PY091154 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Information from Brasilia indicates that Brazilian Embassy personnel in Beirut may be evacuated at any time. The acting foreign minister has authorized the Brazilian ambassador in Lebanon to evacuate the country.

VICE PRESIDENT CHAVES TO RESIGN 14 JUNE

PY100147 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Talking to journalists this morning, Vice President Aureliano Chaves said that he will stay in his post until 14 June and will resign on that date in compliance with legal provisions so that he can qualify to run for the PDS [Social Democratic Party] presidential nomination at the party's convention on 15 September.

POLICE RECOVER SOME OF STOLEN RADIOACTIVE LEAD

PY091237 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The police have recovered 800 kg of the 6 tons of radioactive lead that was stolen from a Sao Paulo University laboratory. Two children who had been involved in the theft identified the thief as (Edilberto Felix Nascimento). According to these minors, a large part of the stolen lead was taken by a junkman. (?Another) man who bought 700 kg of the stolen lead left for Rio Grande do Norte, while 659 kg of lead were sold to a junkyard for (?670,000) cruzeiros. The police were able to find the thieves through an anonymous phone call received by Professor (Elisa Boulinarc).

CACERES, CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT LEAVE FOR U.S.

PY091252 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Leaving today for the United States are Finance Minister Carlos Caceres, Central Bank President Hernan Felipe, Errazuriz, and Central Bank advisers.

REPORTAGE ON PERSONS INSIDE APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE

Sued for Slaying

PY092201 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0222 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 8 Feb (EFE) -- Carlos Riveros, the father of one of the guards who died during the attack against General Carol Urzua on 30 August 1983, today filed a law suit against the four leftists who have taken refuge in the Apostolic Nunciature in Santiago. Military Judge Advocate Francisco Baghetti took under advisement the case charging Jose Aguilera, Jaime Jovanovic, Elba Duarte, and Pamela Cordero of being members of the armed commando that murdered Carlos Riveros' son.

However, Judge Baghestti rejected the request to prohibit them from leaving the country and to arrest them because he had already ordered these measures sua sponte on 16 January 1984, that is, the same day that they entered the nunciature and their identity was established.

Interrogation Requested

PY100149 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] A judge advocate has requested the interogation of the four extremists in the nunciature. This information was released by a court spokesman who said that Judge Francisco Baghetti submitted a request to the Apostolic Nuncio. The interrogation has not taken place because the Apostolic Nunciature has diplomatic immunity. It has also been reported that a warrant for the arrest of the four Chileans was issued on 16 January, the day they took refugee in the Nunciature.

OFFICIAL ON FOREST FIRES, CONGRESS, SWEDEN

PY091304 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] There are very clear and accurate indications pointing to the fact that the forest fires are being caused by arsonists, Alfonso Marquez de la Plata, minister secretary general of government, has said. Marquez de la Plata spoke to the press after meeting with President Pinochet and Interior Minister Jarpa. Marquez de la Plata recalled that harsh, strong punishment exists for those who are involved in this kind of action. Therefore, the law will be enforced rigorously. According to legislation in effect, these persons may be imprisoned for many years, Marquez de la Plata added.

Marquez de la Plata said that it is untrue that the government has reportedly accepted the establishment of a congress ahead of schedule, a congress that was to start functioning in May 1984, as stated by the opposition.

Asked about the existence of a terrorist plan aimed at scuttling the song contest and the foreign ministers meetings that are being held in Vina del Mar, Marquez de la Plata said that terrorists are always trying to make trouble. Therefore, he said, all necessary steps have been taken, and the Vina del Mar mayor has taken all necessary steps concerning security.

Asked about a decision by the Swedish Government to support the Chilean opposition, Marquez de La Plata said:

[Begin Marquez de la Plata recording] Well, I think that the Chileans who are receiving money, as the Swedish foreign minister admits, will be strongly repudiated by the citizenry. I think that in this country we show that we are independent and handle our affairs ourselves. Now then, if there are people who need money to achieve their ends [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

Asked about the call made by the Popular Democratic Movement [MDP] to establish a provisional governemnt, Marquez de la Plata commented that this call has been repudiated by Democratic Alliance (AD) members themselves. Asked whether the government is planning to apply the law on internal state security to the MDP, Marquez de la Plata said that it is likely, that this issue is being reviewed, and that the results will be released in due time.

CARABINEROS DETAIN ARSONIST IN VALPARAISO

PY091253 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Carabineros acting as forest rangers have detained an individual who was trying to start a forest fire. This took place in the (Bahia Andorra) open range area in higher Valparaiso. According to the police reports, this individual was identified as Juan Carlos Roua Martinez, a student, who was caught while attempting to start a new forest fire using flammable substances.

UNIONS REPUDIATE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION

PY091820 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Chilean union leaders have categorically repudiated the intervention of the Swedish Government in Chilean domestic affairs. The members of the National Autonomous Union Front have issued a communique in which they note that this is an insolence that was admitted by the Swedish foreign minister before the Swedish parliament.

The Chilean union leaders stated that Swedish Foreign Minister Lennart Budstrom has admitted that the Swedish Government is intervening in Chilean domestic affairs by making donations and by exerting diplomatic pressure in favor of political organizations that lack the support of the majority of Chileans. They add that the Swedish official also admitted that the economic support is supplied through private organizations and through the church. But, they add, it is not specified through which church the Swedish Government is making these donations.

The union organization wonders by what right the Swedish Government, which is infiltrated by Marxists, intervenes in the domestic affairs of a sovereign country such as Chile? None, none at all, other than hatred and their involvement with traitors, extremists, and assassins who are granted monetary aid and support with the objective of submerging Chile in chaos so as to make us the prey of atheist and totalitarian Marxism.

ARREST OF MDP LEADER FOR RALLY STATEMENTS ASKED

PY091729 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Chilean Government has requested the arrest of Manuel Almeyda, who in his capacity as president of the Popular Democratic Movement [MDP], incited people to subversion during a rally at the Caupolican theater.

This was reported today at noon by (Humberto Neuman), the Interior Ministry legal advisor. He added that Judge (Osvaldo Faunde) has been appointed to investigate the case. He will study the background material and will later summon Manuel Almeyda for questioning.

[Begin (Neuman) recording] In the speech that he delivered on Sunday at the Caupolican Theater in the closing ceremony of the assembly that the group was holding, Almeyda slandered the government; he incited people to subversion; he urged people to hold a general strike; and he urged people to overthrow the government and to establish a provisional government made up of member of his political sector. [end recording]

JAIME CASTILLO VELASCO ACTING PDC PRESIDENT

PY091434 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Jaime Castillo Velasco is acting as Christian Democratic president for Gabriel Valdez, who is out of Santiago and will resume his duties shortly.

NEW II ARMY CORPS, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION CHIEFS

PY091650 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 9 Feb 84 p 9

[Excerpt] General Orlando Machuca Vargas, newly appointed commander of the II Army Corps, will assume his post this morning at the Villarica barracks. A special ceremony to be attended by General Alejandro Fretes Davalos, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, and other high-ranking military officers will be held at 1045.

Machuca Vargas, who has been the commander of the 1st Cavalry Division, is replacing General Pedro R. Florentin.

Another ceremony is scheduled to take place tomorrow at 0800, when the newly appointed commander of the 1st Cavalry Division, Staff Colonel Gregorio Lopez Prado, will assume his post. Lopez Prado is replacing Gen Machuca Vargas. This ceremony will be presided over by Major General Andres Rodriguez, commander of the I Army Corps.

GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZES 17 FEBRUARY PRF RALLY

PY091816 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 9 Feb 84 p 10

[Text] The final details of the meeting with which the Febrerista Revolutionary Party [PRF] will commemorate yet the anniversary of the "Febrerista Revolution" are being set. The meeting will take place at Italia Square at 2030 on 17 February. This political rally has been authorized in writing by the Interior Ministry.

Although the official agenda of the meeting is not known, it has been reported that PRF Acting President Manuel A. Rivarola will open the ceremony. PRF President Euclides Acevedo will address the meeting directly from Madrid where he has traveled to meet with the leaders of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party (PSOE).

Representatives of the MOPOCO [Colorado Popular Movement], the Christian Democratic Party, and the Authentic Radical Liberal Party will also speak at the meeting. Humberto Perez Caceres will make the closing speech.

The PRF plans to send invitations to all Paraguayan political parties asking them to send speakers to the rally. Plans include an open debate with no political restrictions, according to PRF spokesmen. Invitations have been issued to rural political leaders to participate in the rally commemorating the "Febrerista Revolution."

PRF PRESIDENT ACEVEDO INTERVIEWED IN PARIS

PY100022 Paris AFP in Spanish 1826 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Paris, 9 Feb (AFP) -- Paraguay is showing signs of change, and the post-Stroessner era has already begun, the president of the Febrerist Revolutionary Party [PRF], Euclides Acevedo, said today in Paris. The economic and political model which was instituted in 1954 is showing signs of attrition, although not of collapse, the PRF leader told AFP. He is now in Paris to attend a meeting of the Paraguayan opposition to be held this coming weekend.

The signs of a political opening, beginning with the return of leaders of the Colorado Popular Movement [MOPOCO] after 20 years in exile, pose a challenge to the militants in the National Accord, an opposition umbrella group formed by the PRF, the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], and the MOPOCO, Acevedo added.

The PRF president noted that the marginal opening of the Stroessner regime can be partially explained by the current environment of democratization in the southern cone, but mainly by the serious economic crisis which affects the country. He said that the crisis is now affecting sectors which up until now unconditionally have supported the Stroessner regime, particularly the business community, which sees itself threatened by the regime's incapacity to promote productive activities, and the lack of a fiscal policy favoring exports.

Stroessner is surrounded by a mediocre and corrupt elite that is closely connected with foreign capital. This elite blocks the expansion of economic and commerical horizons for a business community that must manage with no support from the government a national industry that is just coming into being and is interested in its own growth, Acevedo added.

As for the rally that his party will stage on 17 February in Asuncion, the first one sponsored by an opposition political party since 1965, Acevedo said that his party wants the rally to be a pluralist gathering of all political parties, student organizations, and labor unions so as to begin creating an atmosphere for the country's democratization.

The PRF president wants the opposition to have a political platform based on a new constituent assembly, so that the transition can be legitimized by an updated, democratic and pluralist constitution.

The opposition must offer an alternate model which not only contemplates political change but also economic propositions for a different way of production, distribution, and ultimately propositions for a different way of thinking, Acevedo added.

According to the Febrerist leader, the antidictatorial front should be strengthened by labor sectors and other social forces interested in the process of change, such as the Paraguayan Industrial Union, the Industry and Commerce Federation, some student organizations, and outstanding personalities in the cultural sector as well.

However, Acevedo affirmed that accepting the communists in this front will amount to an intellectual and political fraud, because they are irrelevant as representatives of social and class interests.

He also said that the programmatic proposals of the National Accord must include a position regarding the Armed Forces, because they will play an important role pro or con in the transition. In that regard, Acevedo said that although the situation within the Armed Forces is hard to know because of the lack of information some military sectors have a more institutional outlook on the country's future, envisioning repressive participation of the Armed Forces in the affairs of society.

According to Acevedo, those military sectors are being pressured by the U.S. Department of State and the Brazilians favoring democratic liberalization into adopting a loftier political role. The Department of State message to them might be this: You must no longer be elements legitimizing an autocratic regime. You can keep power, and the civilians can have the government.

ANOTHER MOPOCO MEMBER RETURNS FROM EXILE

PY091602 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 9 Feb 84 p 10

[Excerpt] "I am very pleased to return to my country after so many years in exile, and I hope that our presence will be useful in achieving the country's total democratization," said Juan Antonio Aranda Cuevas upon returning to Paraguay through Puerto Falcon from La Plata, [Argentina]. Aranda was met by MOPOCO [Popular Colorado Movement] members, relatives, and friends.

Aranda recounted that he had left Paraguay as a teenager. "I was a student leader, and I was acting as secretary general of the Ismael Gonzalez Student Association of Business School No 1 in Asuncion when the institutional split in the Colorado Party occurred," Aranda recalled.

"I assessed the situation, and I decided to go into exile following those who some time later were to found the MOPOCO. I joined it when it was founded, and now I am a full member of its executive board," Aranda added.

NAZI HUNTER KLARSFELD ARRIVES IN ASUNCION

PY092355 Asuncion Red Privada de Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Nazi hunter Beate Klarsfeld arrived in our capital this afternoon from Santiago, Chile, after staying in that city for 3 weeks. There were no incidents at the international airport in Campo Grande, and the police did not implement any security measures upon Klarsfeld's arrival.

This is her second trip to South America. During her first trip she was instrumental in having Klaus Barbie expelled from Bolivia to Lyon, France. After going through the routine customs check, Beate Klarsfeld talked to the press at the airport. She said that the main prupose of her trip to Asuncion is to request officials to expel German Dr Josef Mengele, if he is living in our country.

Asked if she had any connection with the Jew Simon Wiesenthal, Klarsfeld said no, that they worked independently. Asked who was financing her trips abroad, she said she has the support of U.S. Jewish organizations. She added that during her stay in our country she plans to meet with government officials and leaders of opposition political parties. In conclusion Beate Klarsfeld, wife of French lawyer Serge Klarsfeld, said that she hopes that her visit to Paraguay will cause no problems.

AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON WOUNDED BY GRENADE

PY091049 Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Uruguayan ambassador to Lebanon Guillermo Stewart was wounded during a shoot-out in Beirut. Stewart's wounds will keep him hospitalized for at least 10 days. Foreign Minister Carlos Alberto Maeso gave the first details of this unfortunate incident.

[Begin recording] [Maeso] Fortunately Ambassador Stewart is not in critical condition, according to reports we have received here and from the Lebanese Embassy in our country. He was another victim of the violence that is unfortunately taking place in the Lebanese capital. We can now say that his life is completely out of danger and that he is expected to recover in 10 days.

[Unidentified reporter] How was the attack perpetrated?

[Maeso] Naturally we still do not know the details. According to preliminary reports, everything indicates that it was during one of the frequent clashes that are taking place in that country that the Uruguayan ambassador was wounded by a hand grenade. [end recording]

COLORADO LEADER ON ARMY COMMANDER'S 9 FEB SPEECH

PY092324 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Interview with Colorado Party leader Dr Jorge Batlle by an unidentified reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] Dr Batlle, great significance has been attached to the speech that General Aranco is to deliver tonight at the ceremony marking the retirement of some generals. Do you believe that the statements that Gen Aranco may make at this time will further clarify the picture for November?

[Batlle] I think that the statements by the commander in chief are always important, given the tone of his first speech. These statements must always be carefully analyzed. I think that it would be very useful for some questions, which are still hanging in the air, to be answered. For instance, what is the schedule and the details of the 1984 elections. As you know, there are all kinds of rumors on this matter because the country's press is censored. Therefore, [words indistinct] these rumors hinder (?reaching) an understanding and a broad national accord by all forces in order to overcome the situation in the country.

I believe that it should be made clear that an electoral timetable has been established and that the Armed Forces have pledged to hold elections in November 1984 to change the government. The government must be completely changed rather than partially changed. There are many rumors about attempts to modify both the electoral laws and the Constitution to find electoral solutions. There are also rumors about attempts to modify the electoral timetable to hold partial elections. All these rumors are being spread by some people who are desperately trying to find a way for the Armed Forces to... [Batlle rephrases sentence] they are mostly civilians tied to the government who are desperately trying to find a way to make the Armed Forces commit the error of not fulfilling their promise or at least of feeling tempted to do so.

It is very important for the commander in chief to take the opporutnity tonight to address the nation to clarify this, to dispel doubts, and to prevent an increase in the people's distrust of political affairs and, naturally, of the economic policy. The situation will become even more difficult, if the people's distrust increases.

[Reporter] Doctor, when do you think the talks should be resumed?

[Batlle] I understand that the commander in chief has said that the talks should be resumed immediately. I believe that the word immediately has only one meaning, which is right away. However, for some people the word immediately does not mean right away in Spanish but say within 3 months. I believe that immediately means right away.

BRIEFS

ESTIMATED POPULATION GROWTH -- According to the annual report recently issued by the Bureau of Statistics and Census, the Uruguayan population will reach almost 4 million people in the year 2025. The figure was estimated on the basis of data gathered since 1950, when the Uruguayan population was 2,240,000. There will be approximately 3,300,000 Uruguayans at the beginning of the 21st century. [Summary] [Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Feb 84 PY]

COST OF LIVING INCREASE -- The General Statistics and Census Directorate has reported that the cost of living increased by 51.51 percent between December 1982 and December 1983. [Excerpts] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 14 Jan 84 p 6 PY]

FOREIGN DEBT FIGURES -- According to the Central Bank, the Uruguayan foreign debt totaled $4,330,600,000 on 30 September 1983. Of this figure, $290.8 million will fall due during 1984, $235.1 million are unpaid demand obligations, $1,065,500,000 did not have any specific expiration date, and $221.6 million fell due during 1983. The remaining part of the debt will fall due as follows: $381.2 million in 1985, $460.7 million in 1986, $470 million in 1987, and $1,185,700,000 in 1988. [Excerpt] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 14 Jan 84 p 6 PY]

PRESIDENT 'OPTIMISTIC' IN LE MONDE INTERVIEW

PM091027 Paris LE MONDE in French 3 Feb 84 p 4

[Interview with new Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi by Jean-Claude Buhrer in Caracas -- date not given]

[Text] Caracas -- As the clear winner in the 4 December election, with 57 percent of the vote, Jaime Lusinchi (59) succeeded Luis Herrera Campins of the Christian Social Party [COPEI] as president of Venezuela on Thursday, 2 February. The new head of state, from the Democratic Action Party -- a social democratic party -- is aware of the scale of the task which awaits him in the 5 years he has to set the country "moving" again. As the third-biggest producer of black gold in OPEC, Venezuela is certainly still envied in Latin America. But, with the drop in oil prices, which provide more than 90 percent of its foreign currency earnings, it too has been hit by the economic and financial crisis.

Last year's GDP dropped by at last 2 percent, unemployment increased abruptly to 15 percent of the working population, and the outgoing government was forced to carry out a de facto devaluation of the bolivar, the national currency, by introducing multiple exchange rates. Although the new authorities are counting on an increase in oil prices, stimulated by a possible recovery in the industrialized countries, President Lusinchi will probably need all of the vast wave of popular support which has emerged to try to restore confidence in a country long used to spending without counting the cost. He explained this to us in an interview he granted on the eve of taking office.

"The Venezuelan state's attitude and the way in which the government is run must be changed. We must change the country's consumption pattern, and to do so requires a major effort. We intend to talk clearly. We will not pursue a populist policy, a policy of complacency, 'sponsorship,' or undue use of state paternalism."

One of the new government's first tasks will be to resume negotiations on rescheduling a foreign debt of over $35 billion -- the fourth-largest debt in Latin America (after Brazil, Mexico, and Argentina). It is a worrisome matter, but President Lusinchi says he is optimistic, although he was not willing to reveal his plans: "We will put forward the fundamentally sound structures of the national economy, our country's reputation as a good payer, and its democratic and geopolitical situation," he said. "We might thus secure terms that do not involve IMF intervention."

Although an official devaluation of the bolivar is expected shortly, Mr Lusinchi was evasive: "The attitude about the bolivar must be rationalized. Venezuela must clearly change its import plans, and its whole commercial policy must also change."

"New Impetus" for Agriculture

Oil has no doubt been a major asset for Venezuela. But, at the same time, it was a "curse," to cite Juan Pablo Perez Alfonso, one of OPEC's founders. The new president is apparently aware of this, and he intends to safeguard the future: "We reaffirm, in agreement with OPEC, our policy of conserving our resources while trying to increase our proven reserves and our production potential as much as possible." Mr Lusinchi also intends "to give new impetus" to agriculture, in order to free the country from "dependence on imported food products" and to reduce oil's importance in the economy.

As is the case with any change of government, Mr Lusinchi has also pledged to launch "a national crusade against corruption." Moreover, Venezuelans admit, with a touch of irony, that corruption is bound to diminish, "because with less money there will be less to steal!"

In foreign policy the Venezuelan president intends to give priority to Central America and the Caribbean. And to clearly show the importance he attaches to restoring lasting peace in the region, he is proposing to appoint a special ambassador, as the United States has done. "Venezuela," he explained, "cannot isolate itself from Central America and the Caribbean, because of its geographical position as well as to defend its own democratic system. I am opposed to any foreign intervention in the region. Venezuela will continue to work for the restoration of peace by the people directly affected."

Even before taking up residence in the Miraflores presidential palace, Mr Lusinchi has had talks on several occasions with top American officials and representatives of multinational firms. Should that be seen as a sign of a move toward closer U.S. ties?

"We have strong commercial and economic relations with the United States. This system should be strengthened to give both the maximum benefit, and that means that the United States should be generous with us, since we are its most reliable source of oil supplies and one of its best clients. The United States should give us technological assistance and be more understanding in the financial sphere."

Regarding relations with Cuba, which have been virtually suspended since 1980, the new president is in favor of normalization. He believes that Havana should be involved in the search for a settlement in Central America "as an interested party."

PRISONERS' RELATIVES OCCUPY ARGENTINE CONSULATE

PA100245 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2104 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas, 9 Feb (DPA) -- A group of relatives of political prisoners who are in La Pica Prison, in eastern Venezuela, today occupied the Argentine Consulate in Caracas.

"With this we are trying to call attention to the problem of our relatives in La Pica Prison," they said when arriving at approximately 1430 GMT today.

A total of 58 political prisoners, some of them being held without trial, have been on a hunger strike for the past 23 days. Some are in a very delicate condition, according to reports obtained by this news agency.

"We do not have anything against the Argentine Consulate or that country," the demonstrators said, insisting that they were trying to gain domestic and international public attention "so that the Venezuelan authorities will put an end to the situation which led to the hunger strike."

Their complaint is that the prisoners are mistreated and their trials are progressing slowly, the same sources indicated.

DE LA MADRID, SWEDEN'S PALME ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

FL090310 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2100 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- In accordance with a resolution that Mexico and Sweden have presented before the United Nations, the two countries today invited the Soviet Union and the United States to proclaim a nuclear freeze. In the joint communique that President Miguel de la Madrid and Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme issued this morning, they stressed that security based on nuclear deterrence is not sustainable in the long term and that international security will have to be based on common efforts to avoid nuclear war and not on the threat of annihilation.

President De la Madrid said that Mexico will direct its efforts of diversification and export promotion, capital flow, and industrial cooperation toward countries which, like Sweden, keep alive the commitment to reduce protectionist pressures, cooperate for development, and use their economic influence for purposes harmonious with their partners' political and economic needs.

They emphasized the urgent need to use resources that are being spent to perfect and acquire weapons for strengthening the economic and social development of the Third World countries. They also called for continued dialogue as the only way to reduce the danger of war and achieve true disarmament.

Both leaders exhorted the governments of the industrialized countries to give sufficient resources to the International Development Agency [Agencia Internacional de Fomento].

Moreover, they agreed to reaffirm the responsibility assumed by the Swedish and Mexican peoples concerning the needs for peace, justice, and democracy, especially in Central America. Prime Minister Palme confirmed the resolute support that his government gives to the Contadora Group's peace efforts in Central America. He also referred to the outstanding role of Mexico in this process, and expressed his confidence that the first indications of the relaxation of tension in the area, based on respect for national sovereignty, nonintervention, democratization, economic progress, and balanced development, will soon be forthcoming.

De la Madrid expressed his satisfaction that Sweden is willing to give material cooperation to the fulfillment of the urgent economic and social needs of the Central American countries, which are victims of imbalance and historical injustices.

Both statesmen expressed the hope that the U.S. Government will reconsider its decision to withdraw from UNESCO.

Referring to the first stage of the Stockholm Conference on Security and Confidence Building Measures and Disarmament, in Europe, they expressed their hopes that this event will foster dialogue between the different parties and produce concrete measures to reduce tension in Europe.

Both leaders expressed satisfaction with the reestablishment next March in Vienna of the mutual balanced force reduction negotiations. They emphasized the extreme importance of reopening the bilateral negotiations between the superpowers on the limitation of nuclear weapons.

The Swedish prime minister invited the Mexican president and his wife to visit Sweden and President De la Madrid gratefully accepted. A date is yet to be agreed upon.

Olof Palme announced that he will study concrete measures so that his government can, in the short term, contribute to the efforts that Mexico is making to improve its trade balance and direct its exports toward new and diversified markets. The two leaders were pleased with the progress of bilateral relations, and they reaffirmed their commitement to increase and strengthen contacts and exchanges at all levels. Finally, they reaffirmed the willingness of their countries to work for peace, and they agreed on the need to intensify efforts, to which mankind is committed, to accelerate the basic disarmament process.

U.S. SURTAX COULD CAUSE HIGHER OIL PRICE

PA100303 Paris AFP in Spanish 1608 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico, 9 Feb (AFP) -- Mexico will increase the price of its hydrocarbon for export if the United States decides to apply a surtax [impuesto compensatorio] on the crude it purchases from this country, Eliseo Mendoza, the energy, mines and parastatal industry under secretary, has announced. Mendoza explained that because of petitions that have been made in Washington to tax oil imports, Mexico and OPEC will see that the industrialized countries do not use surtaxes to transfer other countries' resources to their treasury vaults. He also said that by establishing these customs barriers the United States will eventually hurt the consumer, because the producers will be forced to increase their prices.

Mendoza also said that during a meeting held in 1983 between Saudi Arabian and Mexican oil directors, Saudi Arabia said it favored increasing the price on its crude for export if a developed country applied a surtax. Curent Mexican oil prices have been established at $29 per barrel for the light Isthmus type and $25 for the heavy Maya type. Mexico currently exports 735,000 barrels of oil and 180,000 million cubic feet of gas per day to the United States.

FISHERIES SECRETARY DEPARTS FOR VISIT TO CUBA

FL091313 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2200 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Fisheries Secretary Pedro Ojeda Paullada left for Cuba today where he will discuss matters concerning the development of fishing activities between Mexico and Cuba. Ojeda Paullada, who was invited by the Cuban Government, will visit seafood canneries and several port fishing installations to study the methods used by Cubans to catch snapper.

Ojeda Paullada will meet with Cuban Fishing Industry Minister Jorge Fernandez Cuervo. Later, he will visit the Port of Havana to see the Cuban fishing fleet. The Mexican official will also visit the lobster processing plant in Cardenas, as well as the Paradero fishing zone, to see the progress made in this area and look into the possibility of appplying Cuban methods in Mexico.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA -- Antonio Calzada Urquiza was confirmed today by Congress as Mexico's ambassador to Colombia. [Summary] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2130 GMT 7 Feb 84 FL]

AMBASSADOR TO GREECE -- Olga Pellicer de Brodie, member of the Foreign Relations Secretariat Foreign Policy consultative commission, has been appointed Mexican Ambassador to Greece. [Excerpt] [Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 23 Dec 83 p 5 PA]

EL SALVADOR

LEGISLATURE STUDIES DRAFT ELECTORAL LAW

PA092020 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 7 Feb 84 p 20

[Text] Salvadoran citizens who do not vote in the 25 March elections will be penalized, under a temporary electoral law being considered by the legislative assembly.

Once the election is over, authorities will ask for ID cards to check whether a vote had been cast.

During yesterday's plenary session, two electoral bill segments were approved. The remaining portions will be discussed today. The deadline for candidate registration with the Central Electoral Council was set at midnight, 29 February.

In addition, information on coalitions was released. This is included in Article 6-1, which reads: "Political parties or coalitions will also be able to replace registered candidates up to the day before the election, provided the substitution is caused by the registrated candidate's death or disability, or because his registration has been declared null and void."

The assembly also discussed the section dealing with the electoral register, which stipulates that the election will be carried out in accordance with lists and the home address that appears on a person's ID card.

POLICE REPORT PRESENCE OF FOREIGN MERCENARIES

PA100231 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 9 Feb 84 pp 2, 53

[Excerpt] Commenting on the arrest of 13 Salvadoran citizens, the national police have reported that more than 100 Cuban and Nicaraguan mercenaries are members of the FMLN-FDR terrorist groups.

According to the report, statements by several arrested individuals reveal that there are at least 100 Cuban and Nicaraguan communist mercenaries in the so-called FMLN-FDR camps in the eastern part of the country. The report adds that these mercenaries control and direct operations of terrorism, destruction, death, and desolation in the area.

The report mentions the names of Commanders David, Fernando, Juan, Carlos, Rito, Nazario, Numas, Kike, Beto, and Lipocho o Lichopo.

FMLN-FDR PROPOSAL FOR PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

FMLN-FDR Leaders' Statements

PA092044 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1852 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 9 Feb (DPA) -- The Salvadoran political and military opposition today formally proposed here the creation of a "broadbased provisional government" to pacify the country and call elections.

The proposal includes a government platform and several suggestions for implementation of a dialogue among the contending parties. It was announced by Guillermo Ungo, president of the political-diplomatic commission of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) and the FMLN. Ungo, accompanied by Ruben Zamora, Mario Aquinada, Hector Oqueli, and Ana Guadalupe Martinez -- important leaders of the FDR-FMLN alliance -- said that his proposal has the objective of "achieving peace with liberty and democracy."

He said: "This is not the final menu, but a proposal that can be complemented during the negotiations to achieve a broad national agreement."

Ungo reiterated that the 25 March elections "will not be a solution, but will instead worsen the situation, because they respond to the interests of the U.S. Administration and not to the interests of the Salvadoran people."

He added that the FDR-FMLN will not participate in those elections, but will boycott them militarily, because a major portion of the population will be forced to go to the polls to safeguard their lives and security.

Regarding the "purging" of the Armed Forces and the punishment that the FDR-FMLN will request for persons responsible for repression, Ungo said that the Salvadoran political and military opposition "is not thinking about indiscriminate executions, but about penalties established in laws now in effect."

Commander Ana Guadalupe Martinez pointed out that the FDR-FMLN proposal does not replace military activity. "The war goes on and will go on past 25 March," she stated. She also stated that the FDR-FMLN is in a position to win the war, but wants a political way out to avoid further bloodshed. "The stubborn U.S. Administration will be responsible for an FMLN military victory," she concluded.

Text of Proposal

PA100439 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Integration proposal and platform for a broad-based provisional government by the Salvadoran FMLN-FDR "to the Salvadoran people"; dated 31 January 1984 in El Salvador -- read by announcer]

[Text] A. Introduction

For some years, the FDR and the FMLN have been struggling to achieve the definite liberation of our people. Convinced that the effort to achieve peace with justice should be shared by the largest possible number of Salvadorans, we have proposed several alternatives for solving the current crisis, because only a powerful and speedy effort can lift our country from the ruins in which it has been submerged by the ologarchic regime and the U.S. Government's intervention. We are facing a complex national and international situation. The old oligarchic society and the state which served it have soaked their own fate in blood. They are unable to provide solutions to the demands of thousands of Salvadorans and have created a repressive, exploitative apparatus, carrying out political maneuvers aimed at covering up their determination to seek a military solution.

In addition, the Reagan administration's increasingly interventionist role has extended the war and threatens to regionalize the conflict. We insist that the achievement of peace in our country requires a process that includes the widest possible participation of political and social forces and which makes viable a solution based on eliminating those factors -- because they are the source of this conflict.

Hence, the FMLN-FDR propose the creation of a broad-based provisional government to carry out a programmed platform outlining all the necessary tasks. We must take on these tasks in order to overcome the present critical situation and allow our people to continue with their process of social, political, and economic changes towards a truly just society.

B. The Broad-Based Provisional Government

The proposal to create the broad-based provisional government is a result of the developments achieved by the FDR and the Salvadoran people in the political and military sector. The broad-based provisional government will be a government in which no force will prevail; it will be the expression of the broad participation of political and social forces -- ready to eliminate the oligarchic regime and rescue the national sovereignty and independence. Likewise, the existence of private ownership and foreign investments will not be contrary to our social interests.

The proposal for the establishment of a provisional government is the result of the development of the people's democratic, revolutionary forces in the political and military areas.

It will be a broad-based provisional government whose duration will be determined by the fulfillment of its basic objectives, according to what is agreed upon between the parties and based on the understanding that this will not be a long-term government. The basic objectives of the broad-based provisional government are as follows:

1. Rescue the national independence and sovereignty.

2. Destroy the oppressive apparatus and establish the bases for a true democracy with full compliance with human rights and political freedom which seeks to fully implement the people's participation to achieve definite peace.

3. Attend to the people's most urgent and immediate needs and adopt basic economic and social measures to change these structures.

4. Establish the necessary practical conditions to resolve the present state of war.

5. Prepare and hold general elections. The broad-based provisional government will have a structure simplified to its highest level. It will consist of the following: government junta, ministerial cabinet, advisory state council, and supreme court of justice. The provisional government will be comprised of representatives of workers, peasants, teachers, employees, professional colleges, universities, political parties, and business sectors, the FMLN-FDR, and the national Army -- duly purged. The government organizations will include this broad representation, excluding the oligarchy and sectors and persons opposed to achieving the objectives of the provisional government and who advocate a dictatorship.

C. Government Platform

This platform establishes the basic guidelines and necessary measures to be adopted by the broad-based provisional government, with the contributions and advice of several organizations, sectors, and citizens. It will become a government program that seeks solutions to the most urgent development problems in this country.

First of all, we propose a package of measures to be applied immediately. Second, there are some measures and guidelines to enchance the broad-based provisional government's action during its administration. Immediate measures:

1. Dissolution of the 1983 Constitution and its replacement by a constitutional decree regulating the broad-based provisional government's activities.

2. Dissolution of the state of siege and all the decrees issued since 1980 which violate individual and social liberties.

3. Freedom for all political prisoners and missing persons and the annulment of all sentences issued based on repressive and special decrees.

4. Full guarantees for the exercise of collective and individual democratic rights and freedoms. A provisional statute should be issued to regulate agrarian, livestock, and state workers' rights to organize labor unions. The unions will be indemnified for damage done to their property through repression since 1979. The organization of the people's power will be legitimized; this was created during the war in various zones of the country.

5. Elimination of security corps, death squads, and their political arm, the ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] party. Creation of a civil police corps under the Interior Ministry.

6. Withdrawal of U.S. or any other countries' military advisers, intervention, and military aid; an end to all supplies of weapons.

7. Purging of the government Armed Forces. Once this is achieved, its leaders should be organized within the broad-based provisional government's structures.

8. Investigation and trial of civilians and military officers responsible for genocide, political crimes, torture, disappearances, and the illegal deprivation of individual liberties. The death of FMLN fighters and of Army soldiers and officers in combat does not constitute a crime.

9. The supreme court of justice would investigate and pass judgment on crimes against human rights. It must also purge and reorganize the judicial branch. Nongovernment human rights organizations, which have defended the people during the dictatorship's regime, would be asked to cooperate in this task.

10. The return of exiles and refugees and the implementation of an emergency program to reintegrate and care for returning refugees, those who have been disabled by the war, those who have been dismissed from the Armed Forces, and the families and persons who, as a result of the war, have been left without protection. The broad-based provisional government will request the cooperation of international agencies and nongovernment organizations for these tasks.

11. Implementation of an emergency program to reconstruct the economic, educational, and health infrastructures, which have been either destroyed or damaged by the war.

12. The establishment of a moratorium on debts to benefit small and middle businessmen. This would include a rapid and timely finance program to benefit the industrial and the agricultural and livestock sectors so as to promote economic reactivation.

13. Price fixing and control of staples consumed by the people to improve the people's real incomes. The marketing and distribution of staples must also be reorganized and controlled.

14. Renegotiation of the foreign debt, acknowledging the financial commitments acquired by previous governments.

15. The reestablishment of the autonomy of the National University of El Salvador and the allocation of sufficient resources for its reorganization and operation. The university campus would be put at the disposal of its legitimate authorities immediately.

16. There would be a massive literacy campaign and an adult training program in the areas of health, education, agricultural and livestock production, and community organization.

17. The development of a massive employment program through the promotion of state and private investment in those sectors that produce jobs. An emergency program would be implemented to acquire the raw material and tools necessary for economic reactivation. Producers would be guaranteed adequate marketing channels and frameworks.

18. The promotion and development of a popular organization program through the organization and consolidation of municipalities, communities, and state institutions, which must participate in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs that benefit the community.

19. The development of a massive communications program, with the creation and use of massive popular communication means for local consumption.

20. The creation of an electoral organization that, on the basis of an agreement among the concerned parties, would prepare free general elections and a reliable electoral registry.

Economic and Social Reforms

1. The establishment of the requirements for the full implementation of the agrarian reform program, ensuring the free participation of farmworkers in this implementation. The development of a cooperative-organization program that would involve individual small farm owners.

2. The establishment of the requirements for the full nationalization of the country's banks and financial system to place both credit and finance organizations at the service of the majority.

3. The establishment of the foundations for a complete reorganization of our foreign trade, including the control of primary export products: coffee, cotton, sugarcane, maritime products, and meat. This would also include control of the import of raw materials, input products, spare parts, and technology needed for our national production.

4. The establishment of the foundations for an adequate solution to the housing problems of low-income sectors; the progressive expansion of social security services; and the reorientation of foreign investments for an effective contribution to the fulfillment of social needs.

Foreign Policy

The broad-based provisional government would develop its foreign policy on the basis of the following criteria:

1. The broadbased provisional government would pursue a policy of world relations for peace, in opposition to a rash arms buildup and nuclear weapons. It would defend the principles of peaceful coexistence, self-determination, and nonintervention; thus, it would join the Nonaligned Movement and, consequently, carry out a struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, Zionism, racial discrimination, and apartheid. It would establish diplomatic relations with other countries regardless of their social systems on the basis of national interests. It would comply with pledges undertaken at international organizations and would encourage active participation at international forums for the discussion and solution of problems arising from economic relations between countries. It would reaffirm its Bolivarian traditions and would consequently seek to promote and participate in regional forums that could strengthen the Latin American countries' position on regional political, diplomatic, financial, and social problems.

2. In regard to its relations with the United States:

A. It would propose that agreements be concluded that guarantee both countries' national security. Thus, the broadbased provisional government would pledge not to permit the installation of foreign military bases and/or missiles in its territory. Also, the U.S. Government must pledge that it will not carry out, promote, or encourage actions of destabilization against the broad-based provisional government or the government that is elected during this process. The Salvadoran Government would not endanger its national territory with activities seeking to destabilize governments in neighboring countries, nor would it allow the movement of weapons and foreign troops through its territory. It would promote the conclusion of pacts of nonaggression and nonintervention in the areas's internal affairs.

B. The Salvadoran Government's relations with the United States and Central America would be reoriented and based on unconditional respect for the rights of self-determination, independence, and national sovereignty, and on mutual cooperation and interdependence. Thus, it would seek to achieve Morazan's ideal of Central American unity and would strive to free our region of foreign military forces. It would not participate in military alliances; consequently, it would withdraw from the CONDECA [Central American Defense Council]. It would actively participate in the promotion and development of regional organizations that can guarantee political solutions to international controversies with the conclusion of agreements that promote economic, social, and political unity.

Procedures

In order to carry out this proposal, it is necessary that a process of dialogue-negotiation be initiated that would deal with the following aspects:

A. In regard to the participants:

1. The parties in conflict:

A. An FMLN-FDR delegation.

B. A Salvadoran Government and Armed Forces delegation, and the U.S. ambassador for Central America or another U.S. Government representative.

2. Mediators without power of resolution, appointed with the parties' approval.

3. International witnesses, such as representatives of the Contadora Group and other democratic governments.

B. Phase 1: Direct and unconditional dialogue, organized by one or several mediators on their own initiative or at the request of the parties, which would achieve substantive negotiations, with the agenda for those negotiations and the specification of witnesses and procedures.

Phase 2: Direct negotiations between the parties in conflict, with the mediators acting as moderators at the meetings, and with the attendance of ambassadors, appointed by the governments, as witnesses.

C. Pledges: The FMLN-FDR state their willingness to negotiate a cease-fire once the process of dialogue and negotiation has begun and when it has reached an advanced stage. Once the agreements are drawn, the document would be signed by the parties in conflict, by the witnesses in their role of guarantors, and by the mediators. Immediately afterwards, the agreements would be complied with in terms of the agreed-upon dates, terms, and order. This process will end with the organization of a single national army consisting of FMLN and government Armed Forces and duly purged. Until then, both armies would retain their own weapons.

[Signed] General Command of the FMLN, Executive Committee of the FDR

[Dated] El Salvador, 31 January 1984

FMLN'S 'COMMANDER WILLIAM' ON FOREIGN MERCENARIES

PA092106 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Report by Raul Beltran Bonilla]

[Excerpts] This morning Guerrilla Commander Eliseo Godinez Villalobos, alias "Commander William," who said that he is the head of the FMLN's southwestern Feliciano Ama Front, spoke to the press at the San Juan Opico Artillery Brigade.

We visited this military installation to hear his statement. The press was allowed to openly discuss various topics related to his knowledge about the participation of certain foreigners in those groups and about certain countries' logistical support for the FMLN, which almost forced him to desert, to join the Armed Forces, and to offer them his cooperation.

Here is a portion of his statement:

[Begin recording] [Godinez] What I saw was the diplomatic and firm support of other countries for the FMLN struggle, especially through offers of economic and financial aid.

[Question] Is there any proof of arms support?

[Godinez] Proof? What I am really (?concerned) about is that in other countries many weapons for the FMLN might be available, some countries could supply them, but how? [passage indistinct] Yes, they receive arms, but they say the weapons are purchased, not donated. They attribute this support, this opportunity, to foreign aid.

[Question] On the subject of foreign aid, as the person responsible for the Feliciano Ama Front in the western part of the country, as you have repeatedly stated, what is your analysis of the real and objective participation of foreign guerrillas in the FMLN?

[Godinez] I only encountered one foreigner. He participated in the special units and was killed.

[Question] What nationality was he?

[Godinez] He was Mexican nicknamed El Chicano, but I do not really know why he was called that. However, I knew him and talked with him, but he never told me that he was Mexican. I got this information from other people, although I had noticed that he was Mexican. The (?objective) is to have internationalists [word indistinct], but he was the only one that I met on this front. There could be foreigners in other fronts. Some of my guerrilla friends know of the presence of foreigners, but I do not know from which country they originate or what type of people they are. [passage indistinct].

[Question] Do you think the war in El Salvador will end soon, or will it last for a long time?

[Godinez] The war in El Salvador will be much longer and harder because of the political conditions, the class struggles, the increasing internal contradictions, and the [word indistinct]. I think, rather I guarantee, that the war will last much longer than is believed because each force will improve, aim better, and strike better. [end recording]

FMLN REPORTS NEW VICTORIES IN LA LIBERTAD

PA100145 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] We have received the following information from La Libertad Department:

On 8 February, FMLN forces carried out an operation within the framework of the military campaign "All the People To Oppose the Imperialists Until Victory." The operation consisted of an attack on enemy positions in the agricultural complex of Atiocoyo made up of troops from the artillery brigade and paramilitary forces and a control and ambush maneuver on the highway from San Juan Opico to Tacachico.

Likewise, similar attacks were carried out against enemy positions at the Talcualuya farm guarded by national guardsmen, troops of the artillery brigade, and paramilitary groups.

The attack on Atiocoyo started on 8 February, and at 0800 of the following day our forces gained full control, inflicting 29 casualties on the enemy and capturing 25 paramilitary elements, 4 of whom were wounded and released. Our forces maintained control of the highway from San Juan Opico to Tacachico.

Our forces attacked enemy positions at the Talcualuya farm, from where the enemy fled in disarray in view of the powerful advance of the FMLN forces.

Vides Casanova sent troops to reinforce the artillery brigade forces at Talcualuya, but our forces ably maneuvered and ambushed those reinforcements and stopped the demoralized troops of the dictatorship after inflicting 25 new casualties on the enemy, including a lieutenant named Alvarenga. A sergeant was also killed in that action.

Added information from La Libertad Department reveals that the criminal high command, in an effort to avoid that smashing defeat, ordered the nightly machine-gunning of Atiocoyo from a helicopter and the strafing of the community by push-pull [in planes at the Opico-Tacachico highway and the Talcualuya farm, setting fire to the three sugarcane plantations on the farm. In that operation, our forces killed 40 troops and wounded 15. [as heard] As we said, this included one lieutenant and one sergeant killed. We also took 25 prisoners.

In those operations, our forces seized from the units of Vides Casanova in La Libertad Department 70 rifles, mostly North American, 2 M-60 machineguns, 1 M-79 grenade launcher, 1 90-mm cannon, 2 military transmitters, 1 Motorola radio, much ammunition, and other war materiel.

After carrying out their objective, our forces retreated in an orderly manner. This information from La Libertad Department is signed by Commander (Antonio Perez).

From this Department of Morazan, we send a revolutionary salute to all our fighters who participated in those victorious actions in La Libertad Department. There shall not be an inch of Salvadoran territory where the FMLN is not present, victoriously writing the new history of our fatherland. Greetings companeros of La Libertad Department.

VENCEREMOS ON OLIGARCHY'S LINKS WITH DEATH SQUADS

PA091804 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] This morning, the U.S. Government's official station allowed the new EL DIARIO DE HOY director, Enrique Altamirano, to deny his ties with the death squads. Enrique Altamirano denied having links with any party, and said that his is an independent newspaper. He made a number of other assertions in an attempt to wash his hands of [words indistinct] stained with the blood of 45,000 victims.

Altamirano appeared comical as he tried to pose as a peaceful man. For 47 years EL DIARIO DE HOY has been the official voice of the most recalcitrant sector of the oligarchy. This daily newspaper has also become a rich, profitable business through the use of lies, coverups, and misinformation. EL DIARIO DE HOY felt no shame for expressing support in its pages for the most vile and traitorous stances or for expressing support for imperialism's crimes against our countries. For a long time, EL DIARIO DE HOY has been the official voice of the death squads and a haven for Somozists, fascists, and well-known CIA agents.

(?Along with) D'Aubuisson, Altamirano described Msgr Romero in EL DIARIO DE HOY as a victim of the oppressors' hatred. D'Aubuisson and Altamirano have become defenders of the oligarchy's privileges through EL DIARIO DE HOY. Proof of these allegations can be found in the 31 January issue of EL DIARIO DE HOY, in which CIA agent Patrick Buchanan complained that the term death squad is reserved for those who try to save a rightist government by killing people. Altamirano also opposes the term cold-blooded murder for the Army's crimes against symphathizers of the people's struggle.

Many articles in EL DIARIO DE HOY have justified the death squad's murders. Altamirano cannot deny this because it is printed in black and white.

Enrique Altamirano says he is independent. We call him a vulgar lackey of foreign interventors. In his 30 January editorial, Altamirano hails the Kissinger military plan because it does not rule out direct intervention by North American troops in El Salvador. Showing the open fascination he feels for imperialism, Altamirano described Reagan as the greatest North American president since Abraham Lincoln.

One of the main concerns throughout our country's long oligarchic dictatorship has been to control the media so that the workers, peasants, teachers, students, and the people are denied any possibility of self-expression. In the case of EL DIARIO DE HOY, not even paid advertisements can be bought to express views. Thus, the only freedom in which the businessmen of misinformation, the spokesmen for reaction, and the unpatriotic like Altamirano believe is the freedom to become rich at the expense of the workers. The death squads have become an instrument of terror to maintain their privileges.

However, their [word indistinct] cause has not been able to stop the advance of the working people, who steadfastly progress toward seizing power. When this happens, the majority, who have previously had no right to self-expression in this country, will take over the papers of the oligarchic rich and create their own newspapers. To do so, we are already using bullets to make history so that the exploiters will always remember our cause. Injustice and poverty will end amid fireworks, music, and shouts of joy.

GUATEMALA

ENVOYS MEET, DISCUSS BELIZE TERRITORIAL DISPUTE

FL091853 Bridgetown CANA in English 1620 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Belize City, Feb 9 (CANA) -- Guatemala has told neighbouring Belize it wants its longstanding territorial dispute with this former British colony settled peacefully and that it has no aggressive intentions against the government and people of Belize, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Guatemala's position was put during a meeting in Washington between its Ambassador to the U.S. Frederick Fahsen and his Belize counterpart, Henry Edny Cain.

The Spanish-speaking nation had threatened to invade Belize to settle its century-old claim to one-fifth of the country formerly known as British Honduras.

Ambassador Fahsen gave his government's assurance that arms being bought from the U.S. were solely for internal use and stressed that Guatemala would like to see the continuation of talks with Britain and Belize over the territorial claim.

The last round of negotiations was held in New York City in January last year.

MLN, CAN TO JOIN FORCES IN NEXT ELECTIONS

PA100344 Guatemala City DIARIO EL GRAFICO in Spanish 9 Feb 84 p 8

[Text] Under the slogan "United for Guatemala," the National Liberation Movement, MLN, and the Nationalist Authentic Central, CAN, party announced the formation of a coalition in the upcoming elections. The creation of the alliance will be officially announced next weekend and, according to information received, it will be valid only for the next elections. CAN and MLN concur ideologically and, according to their declaration of principles, they belong to the right wing of Guatemalan politics.

The general assemblies of the two parties will approve the coalition, the first announced since political activity was renewed in the country.

Despite rumors that the Institutional Democratic Party [PID] could participate in an alliance with the CAN and MLN, so far that is only speculation.

At this moment, the MLN and the CAN "only speak of alliances; it will not be until the latter organization complies with legal requirements that it will all be legal."

HONDURAS

U.S. TROOPS TO CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS

PA092222 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Communique issued by the Honduran Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate on 8 February in Tegucigalpa]

[Text] The Honduran and U.S. Governments have agreed that U.S. military forces will temporarily continue support exercises and planning operations following the "Big Pine II" military exercises, which ended on 8 February 1984.

Units will be deployed temporarily to Honduras by the end of February for reconnaissance missions. These missions will take place within internationally recognized airspace, planned and approved respecting all areas of sovereign territory. These missions are similar to those carried out in other parts of the world. The flights in Honduras will probably end before the other exercises begin. The number of U.S. flights will vary each week, and the maximum personnel involved will be approximately 1,700, which will be reduced progressively until the next exercises begin. Most of the troops will be stationed on Palmerola Air Base, near Comayagua.

After "Big Pine II," the main activities will consist of planning and preparing future exercises, support missions, communications and signals activities, and the protection of the heavy equipment brought to Honduras for these exercises.

U.S. military forces will remain in Honduras primarily to train and coordinate joint operations with Honduras.

ALVAREZ, CORDOVA SPEAK AT BIG PINE II CONCLUSION

PA091753 [Editorial Report] Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish at 1130 GMT on 9 February broadcast a recording of the closing ceremony of the "Big Pine II" joint military exercises between Honduras and the United States that was held on 8 February at the 1st Infantry Battalion Headquarters. Attending the ceremony were Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova, General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, Armed Forces division chief, and General Paul Gorman, chief of the U.S. Southern Command.

Speaking at the ceremony, Gen Alvarez noted the 8 February conclusion of the exercises, which were carried out in strategic areas. He termed them successful, and said that they were conducted as planned. He expressed Honduras' regret at the deaths of both U.S. and Honduran soldiers during the maneuvers. Alvarez then said: "As a result of the "Big Pine II" maneuvers, we have gained valuable experience in various military strategic and tactical fields. We are now better prepared to operate with increased effectiveness, both offensive and defensive." He added that the exercises demonstrated the capacity of the U.S. forces in a vital sector of the Western Hemisphere.

Continuing his speech, Gen Alvarez said: "We can call these joint exercises a brilliant example of the fraternal ties between two continental nations united in their democratic ideals and yearnings for America to become a home of freedom, human rights, and sovereign peoples who determine their own destines." He then stated that neither side was subordinate to the other, noting that they acted jointly and shared responsibility based on agreements approved by both sides before the maneuvers. He added: "Honduras wants to be free and to keep its sovereignty and its democratic intentions intact. With firm patriotic conviction, Honduras repudiates Marxist militarism. The continent's oldest, most illustrious, and most powerful democracy fully supports us in these noble ideals and objectives." He then expressed the Honduran military's pleasure at hosting the exercises, saying: "We have emerged stronger from these joint maneuvers, which have also helped to cement the friendship and mutual respect between the U.S. and Honduran Armed Forces, peoples, and Governments." Alvarez concluded his speech by congratulating the troops.

Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova then spoke. He said that the operation has increased the technical ability of the Armed Forces, and has "increased the solidarity between the world's most dynamic and powerful democracy, which is the United States, and our young Honduran democracy that, with integrity, is struggling against the challenge of poverty and the threat of totalitarianism." The exercises will help to determine Central American destiny, he added, and "'Big Pine II' has acted as a deterrent to those who have betrayed the democratic commitments made to their people" and who have opted for military measures in the region.

Noting that the exercises have helped to assure readiness for an emergency and have increased civic action, he said that the United States and Honduras have increased cooperation, friendship, and democratic values. "We are united in this crucial hour of history, not only to defend democracy but, what is more important, to promote democracy where it does not exist, where extreme leftist or extreme rightist tyrannies have temporarily buried it." He stated that while the "enemies of freedom" have large arms arsenels and are strong in other fields, the exercises have helped to prepare the participants to face oppression wherever it may occur. President Cordova concluded by saying that those who died in the maneuvers have set an example for others and then congratulated those who participated.

PRESUMED SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS FOUND DEAD

PA100340 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] San Pedro Sula -- According to reports broadcast over Radio America yesterday, 14 presumed Salvadoran guerrillas were found dead last Friday on El Guayabito Hill, San Marcos de Ocotepeque. According to that radio station's correspondent in Copan, the individuals -- 12 men and 2 women -- died 8 days before their bodies were found. A carbine and a pistol were found with the bodies. The radio also said that the bodies were incinerated at the site in the presence of 10 peasants, the justice of the peace of San Marcos de Ocotepeque, the forensic doctor of the area, and 40 members of the 7th Infantry Battalion headquartered in Cucuyagua, Copan.

SALVADORAN REFUGEES RETURNING TO HOMELAND

PA092227 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] A massive exodus of Salvadoran refugees who were formerly interned in the La Mesa refugee camp in Ocotepeque Department has taken place in the past few days. The refugees are returning to their homes in El Salvador.

This was learned yesterday in Tegucigalpa, when deputies from the western part of the country reported that the refugees were abandoning the camps because of plans to relocate them in Yoro Department. Many refugees have decided to return to their country rather than to be transferred elsewhere in Honduras.

NICARAGUA

DRAFT OF ELECTORAL BILL PRESENTED TO COUNCIL

PA092207 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The draft of the electoral bill was today presented by the State Council's Electoral Commission to the colegislative organization during a meeting attended by the diplomatic corps accredited to our country. The contents of the draft articles were revealed by the State Council's directorate to the council members, including leaders of the radical rightist and leftist opposition parties. A bill of amendments to the fundamental statutes on Nicaraguans' rights and guarantees was also presented, in addition to the draft electoral bill. The statutes were approved on 20 July 1979, after the revolutionary victory.

The draft electoral bill covers the election of a president, a vice president, and a constitutent assembly. This is the point on which representatives of political and union organizations in the country base their debates.

Orlando Quinonez, a representative of the Independent Liberal Party, demanded an exhaustive review of the draft electoral bill because, according to him, a citizen's registry must exist prior to the electoral inscription period. The Communist Party of Nicaragua, which joined the State Council today, said that the system outlined in the draft electoral bill should be based on the election of constitutent assemblymen, because they should establish within 2 years the laws that will define the Nicaraguan Government's policy and guidelines in the future.

Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the State Council, spoke with the councilmen about the importance of the draft electoral bill, stating that it should fulfill the people's goals, regardless of any party's interests.

In an open challenge to the leaders of the ultrarightist Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board, representatives of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party, the Social Democratic Party, and the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, which is not a member of the Coordinating Board, participated in the debate.

In its proposal to amend the fundamental statutes of Nicaragua, the Electoral Commission put forth the idea that amendments be used to legalize the election of president and vice president for a 6-year term through popular, direct, and secret ballot. In addition, the proposal established that the state organs be the Junta of the Government, the State Council, and the Supreme Court of Justice, once the articles related to these institutions are approved.

After a discussion of the importance of the revolution's institutionalization and the significant progress that an election in Nicaragua means, the bills were handed over to commissions of the colegislative organ to be reviewed and approved.

Military Can Vote, Campaign

PA100035 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Nicaraguan military personnel will be allowed to vote and to be candidates in the upcoming elections without requesting a discharge from the Armed Forces, according to the draft electoral bill that was presented to the State Council today.

Carlos Nunez Tellez, commander of the revolution and president of the State Council, today submitted the draft electoral bill and proposed amendments to the Basic Statute of the Republic to that colegislative branch of the government. The electoral bill was drafted by a special commission appointed on 21 September 1983.

The 18-page, 152-article draft electoral law will be submitted to the State Council for approval soon, spokesmen of that people's parliament have said.

The State Council agreed by majority vote that the two drafts be accepted for debate. Both will be submitted to the plenary council on 22 February.

The draft bill stipulates that Supreme Court justices, presidents of autonomous entities, and anyone who exercises jurisdiction as a civilian or police authority, even at the municipal level, must resign from their positions in order to be candidates.

Meanwhile, the international press agency UPI has reported that the first draft of a law that establishes the conditions for the elections scheduled for 1985 meets the opposition's demand for "access to the press."

The draft electoral bill provides for a minimum of equal time for all political parties or alliances on state television and radio, but warns that no one will be allowed to malign any candidate, let alone the Sandinist people's revolution.

PDC LEADER ON CONDITIONS NEEDED FOR ELECTIONS

PA092218 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 4-5 Feb 84 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] "We are ready to participate in free, honest elections, and we pray to God that the opportunity and necessary conditions exist, as posed by the opposition political parties in the document of 28 December 1983," said Mario Rappaccioli, president of the national and legal board of directors of the Nicaraguan Democratic Conservative Party [PCD].

Referring to the electoral process and the possible political opening announced by the government, Rappaccioli said: "The political opening is still to be seen. The PCD hopes to go to the elections to show the Nicaraguan people that it is a majority party. However, for the PCD to go to the elections, it is necessary to fulfill the conditions posed jointly with other democratic parties, two labor federations, and COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise] on 28 December 1983. We need confirmation of whether the request contained in the 28 December document will be in effect."

Asked by our reporter if the PCD will join the Democratic Coordinating Board, the conservative leader replied:

"The PCD does not belong to the Coordinating Board, but we shall continue to go hand in hand with the Coordinating Board and its representatives, because there is a great affinity between us. The PCD has not agreed to join the Democratic Coordinating Board; we will go on alone, although we are allies without the need of signed pacts, which often do not count. Circumstances and affinities have greater value than any document," Rappaccioli affirmed.

SACASA BOARD ANNOUNCES POSITION ON ELECTIONS

PA100235 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The extreme rightist Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board announced today in Managua that it has decided not to take part in the current political process unless the Nicaraguan Government agrees to meet its demands concerning the elections.

In a press conference a few minutes before the draft electoral law was presented to the State Council, ranking leaders of the so-called Democratic Coordinating Board, in what appears to be a challenge to the government, threatened not to participate in the elections scheduled for 1985 unless the government accepts its conditions.

The Sacasa Democratic Cooridnating Board is composed of four political parties, two insignificant labor unions, and the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, COSEP, which is the self-proclaimed leader of that extreme rightist faction.

SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER, OTHER OFFICIALS ARRIVE

PA092208 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2003 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Managua, 9 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Olof Palme, prime minister of Sweden, arrived in Managua today on an official visit and was greeted by ranking authorities of the government and the FSLN.

Palme landed in Managua on a Mexican Air Force plane, accompanied by Pierre Schori, deputy foreign minister; Anders Ferm, ambassador to the United Nations; Sten Andersson, minister of health and social affairs; and eight other persons. He was also greeted at Managua's Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport by the Nicaraguan Cabinet, the Supreme Court of Justice, and members of the diplomatic corps.

Palme Grants Press Conference

PA100208 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2304 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Press conference given by Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua; reporters not identified; Palme's answers in English with passage-by-passage translation into Spanish; translated from the Spanish -- live]

[Excerpts] [Palme] I would like to say that [words indistinct] purpose of being here in Nicaragua. We have supported the struggle of the Nicaraguan people against oppression and are happy at their victory. We have also modestly participated in the recovery (?and) reconstruction of the country thereafter. We want to defend Nicaragua's right to independence and to state our feeling that attacks on nations' territories are unacceptable. This runs counter to any international law. [Words indistinct] Sweden and Nicaragua have a joint interest. The entire international community should share this interest.

We have come as Nicaragua's friends to help with its recovery, with its economic and social development as well as its democratic development to be (?manifested) through the forthcoming elections. (?Of course) we are very happy to be here and have been most cordially welcomed.

[Reporter] Sir, we would like to know the Swedish Government's opinion regarding the electoral process being opened in Nicaragua.

[Palme] We have held a very important and very interesting discussion regarding the preparation of the elections and also about [words indistinct] the problems that must be faced by a country making preparations for elections for the first time. And we are truly impressed by the work that is being done here to carry out a good electoral process.

[Reporter] What is your government's view of the U.S. policy on Central America?

[Palme] On many occasions we have criticized the U.S. policy on Central America, especially because it regards this as an East-West conflict, and not one which has at its origin the area's internal social problems. However, I do not think I should criticize the United States [word indistinct] while in Nicaragua, but should speak positively about Nicaragua.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] charges of violations of human rights in Nicaragua. What is your opinion now, following the [words indistinct]?

[Palme] We held a very thorough discussion precisely about this problem, and we can talk about it some other time on some other occasion.

Ortega Interviewed

PA100215 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2327 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Press conference given by Daniel Ortega Saavedra, commander of the revolution and coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, with Swedish journalists at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua; in Spanish with passage-by-passage translation of Ortega comments into Swedish -- live; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] ...flew over the territory and then fell at the border.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] The helicopter was clearly supporting counterrevolutionary activities. Moreover, the ships carrying the helicopters are anchored off our coasts. They serve as mother ships to facilitate operations on speedboats against our economy.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] Because there has been an escalation of the U.S. military presence in Central America. A week ago they announced that a new military base would be established in Honduras, and now they talk of normalizing U.S. flights over Honduras. In other words, the United States is demonstrating its increasing presence and involvement in (?events) in Central America, in opposition to the Nicaraguan and Salvadoran peoples.

[Question] There was some confusion some days ago when it was announced that issuance of the electoral law would be postponed. Do you thing that this will be clarified someday, and could you explain some of the versions of this incident?

[Ortega] A communique issued by the commission handling this matter was misinterpreted, because the commission has no authority to suspend the discussion of the electoral law. What the commission proposed was that the discussion be suspended for a few days to protest the attacks to which we had been subject. However, this has not affected the calendar of discussions. Thus, (?discussion of the law) began yesterday.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] We must say that our talks with Mr Palme were very respectful. Logically, when (?we speak of) respect, we are speaking of the civil right of each country to develop its own internal structure. We discussed in detail the manner in which the electoral process will be carried out here, and among other things, we touched upon the matter of access to the media.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] It must be explained that the commission is working on all these aspects and is logically trying to see that there is the greatest possible participation. All political parties will have the opportunity to present their own programs through the various media.

[Question] [Sentence indistinct] Was there any discussion of the situation of the Miskito Indians?

[Ortega] Yes, of course, but the situation of the Indians [word indistinct] the Miskitos cannot be viewed separately from the situation of the country. It must be said that [word indistinct] attempt not only in regard to the situation of Nicaraguans of (?Miskito origin) but against all Nicaraguans in general is the military policy that the United States has [word indistinct] against Nicaragua. Not until there was armed action on the part of the United States did anybody talk about the Miskitos, (?not even in the United States).

Everything seemed to indicate that during Somoza's time the Miskitos lived in paradise. However, after the victory of the revolution, efforts were made to integrate the Miskito population to enable them to benefit from our economy. When the United States began to implement its policy of aggression, then everybody began to talk about and worry about the Miskitos. [words indistinct] victims of the revolution when they are actually victims of the U.S. policy.

[Question] It has been admitted that errors were committed with regard to the Miskitos. What were those errors?

[Ortega] Well, I think errors that may have been committed by the revolution were a consequence of limitations. For instance, we don't have (?sufficient) natural resources to solve a number of national problems that logically also affect the Miskito population. However, we must note the efforts the revolution has made. For the first time in history the Miskito population was taught how to read [se alfabetizo] in its own language, for instance. [Words indistinct] tangible benefits to the extent that [words indistinct].

[Question] [Words indistinct] the massacres and by mistake [word indistinct] towns have been burned, the population has been [word indistinct].

[Ortega] Well, the one who came to burn towns is the United States with its policy of aggression. They are the ones who burn towns, the ones who bomb. This airport in Managua at which you arrived was bombed because of the U.S. policy. And they have bombed the Miskito population. They bombed Corinto. A short time ago they continued the bombings [words indistinct]. They have continued to launch acts of aggression in Nicaragua's northern area, along the Atlantic. They [word indistinct] North American helicopters and also planes that the United States supplies to Honduras (?and) to the counterrevolution.

[Question] One last question: Would you turn over power if you lost the elections?

[Ortega] I don't think there is any political party that would admit it is going to lose an election. In the case of the Sandinist Front, well, we are confident that the people will ratify the revolutionary [word indistinct]. Now, if the people vote for another option we would have to respect that.

[Question] Nicaragua has taken recourse to the United Nations several times when it has been the subject of aggression. What results has it obtained?

[Ortega] Well, there have been pronouncements by the United Nations [words indistinct] condemning the U.S. policy of aggression.

FDN LEADER REPLIES TO PANAMANIAN PRESIDENT

PA092035 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 8 Feb 84 p 5

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Edgard Chamorro Coronel, the leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Forces (FDN) yesterday replied to Panamanian Ricardo de la Espriella, who had told several international news agencies that the "contras" are making the Central American situation worse and obstructing the Contadora Group's efforts.

Chamorro Coronel said that, to the contrary, the counterrevolutionaries' actions have shown that the Central American conflict should be solved on a regional basis. As an example, he mentioned last week's attacks on several Sandinist installations during which -- according to reports -- a transmitter of "Radio Venceremos," the official voice of the FMLN, was destroyed. "We have uncovered Radio Venceremos and the support that the Sandinist leaders give to the Salvadoran guerrillas,"Chamorro noted, stressing that the FDN has thus demonstrated that Central American problems require a regional solution.

In an interview with TIEMPO yesterday, Chamorro Coronel said that President Ricardo de la Espriella's statement was "the first recognition by a Contadora Group president of the FDN as a belligerent force."

Chamorro Coronel recalled that the FDN has sent letters to the Contadora Group members suggesting recognition of this organization as a necesary element in the process of pacification being conducted by the Contadora Group.

Chamorro gave TIEMPO a copy of the latest letter to Colombian President Belisario Betancur. In this letter, the FDN "reiterated its firm support" for the group made up of Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela. It also expressed willingness to "discuss without prior conditions" what it considers to be a potential international conflict.

Edgar Chamorro Coronel stressed that "the anti-Sandinist fighters should be part of the pacification process initiated by the Contadora Group." He said that "we are pleased to see that the Panamanian president recognizes the FDN as a belligerent force."

FIDEL CASTRO ADDRESSES TEACHERS' SEMINAR

FL091310 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has urged teachers to reach for higher goals in the quality of education and in the formation of new generations.

The first secretary of the party and president of the Councils of State and Ministers presided over a ceremony to close the 8th national seminar for leaders, curriculum planners, and inspectors of the provincial and municipal education directorates. The seminar, which was held in Havana, lasted 3 days and was attended by 2,300 delegates.

In a friendly discussion with the teachers, the leader of the revolution highlighted Cuba's achievements in this area in such a short period of time, and stressed that this is not a reason to boast, but an example of what can be done when a goal exists and one has faith in the endless possibilities of human beings.

Notwithstanding, Fidel said, there is still much to be done. We must continue to improve the national education system and work for double sessions in the primary and secondary schools, he said. Regarding this, he noted that certain provinces have made some progress but others, such as Santiago de Cuba, Las Tunas, and Guantanamo, must make a great effort and draft a short-term plan to reach this goal.

In his speech, Fidel recalled that the revolution has accomplished a great deal on many fronts, especially in public health and education which, he said, have the most impact on the people's interests and sentiments.

Castro said that, 25 years after the triumph of the revolution, the work done in every sphere not only shows that the Moncada goals were met, but that they were surpassed.

Following his speech, the leader of the revolution talked with several delegates and discussed the work they are doing in their respective provinces.

YOUTH FESTIVAL PREPARATORY MEETING BEGINS 9 FEB

FL091415 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The meeting of the International Preparatory Committee of the 12th World Youth and Students' Festival begins today in our capital's Palace of Conventions. The forum will consider and approve a location for the festival which will be held in 1985. The meeting of the International Preparatory Committee will start at 12 noon. The WFDY Executive Committee will meet during the morning on solidarity with Central America and the Caribbean.

In the hallways of the Palace of Conventions -- the meeting place for both forums -- discussions were carried out on the reconciliation of criteria and points of view so that the documents that have just been approved by the WFDY Executive Committee will serve as guides and models for youth in their struggle for peace. This is the reason for the last working session of the WFDY, to be held today at 0800. The documents to be approved are texts of the action program and an expression of WFDY support for holding the festival in Moscow during the summer of 1985.

CULTURE MINISTER MEETS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS

FL092208 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2109 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Armando Hart Davalos, member of the Politburo and minister of culture, has met in Moscow with Boris Pastukhov, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade. Hart also met with Filipp Yermash, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Cinematography. The meetings dealt with different aspects of development and cooperation in the two fields.

EDUCATION MINISTRY STAFF IN ANGOLA TO INCREASE

FL091620 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1529 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] This year the number of Ministry of Education personnel teaching in Angola will be increased to 1,856 teachers, professors, and methodologists, according to (Evaristo Perez), chief of the Cuban contingent of educators in Angola. (Perez) added that 356 of this total are members of the Ernesto Che Guevara Third Internationalist Detachment and the remainder of the Frank Pais Detachment.

The internationalist educators in Angola are active in 28 municipalities and 16 of the 18 provinces and have a total of 100,000 students. The subjects taught are natural science, mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, geography, history, pedagogy, psychology, teaching of special sciences, and technical subjects.

MPSP ON DECLARATION OF SOLIDARITY WITH POLISARIO

FL091827 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has issued a declaration of solidarity with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Sagui el Hamra and Rio de Oro [Polisario] because of the increase in the number of attacks unleashed by the United States together with Morocco in the northeastern part of Africa. The document warns that the imperialist and reactionary objective is to ignore the OAU peace initiatives and the victorious struggle being waged by the patriots of Western Sahara.

MEXICO'S FISHERIES SECRETARY, OFFICIALS ARRIVE

FL091737 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico's Secretary of Fisheries Pedro Ojeda Paullada has arrived in our country, accompanied by a group of officials of that branch of the economy, in response to an invitation of the Cuban Government. This working visit will further strengthen and develop the already fruitful relations between Mexico and Cuba in the matter of cooperation in the fishing industry.

During its stay in our country, the Mexican delegation will tour fishing ports and areas, and will exchange experiences with Cuban representatives.

SHULTZ' GRENADA VISIT 'LEGITIMIZES' OCCUPATION

FL091900 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has returned to Washington after his 9-day trip to Caribbean, Central American, and South American countries. Shultz visited Grenada, Barbados, El Salvador, Venezuela, and Brazil. The purpose of this trip was to reinforce U.S. military intervention in regional matters while rallying the most reactionary forces in the struggle against the growing national liberation movement.

Shultz is the first high official of the Yankee administration to visit Grenada after the barbarous aggression perpetrated against this sovereign nation. In fact, with his visit, Shultz legitimized the occupation of the island.

In his conversations with the puppets of the transition government, the Washington emissary reviewed details of the future enslavement of Grenada and its transformation into a bastion of U.S. aggression in the Caribbean. U.S. military personnel are already training local bullies in methods of crushing any Grenadians who are unhappy with Yankee domination of the island.

L.A. PARLIAMENT TERMS HAITIAN ELECTIONS 'FARCE'

FL091246 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The legislative elections scheduled for next Sunday in Haiti are a farce, it was stated by the Human Rights Commission of the Latin American Parliament, which has concluded its meetings in Santo Domingo.

In one of its conclusions, the commission denounced the electoral farce organized by the Haitian dictatorship for 12 February, in which not even the official candidates have received the minimum guarantees essential for carrying out political activities.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA MEETS WITH INDIAN DEPUTY

FL091355 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] In Managua, Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has mentioned again that there is a possibility of a U.S. military intervention in Central America and urged India to rally world support to prevent this intervention.

The Nicaraguan leader received professor (Chandul Mohapatra), deputy and former secretary general of the Indian National Congress Party, and informed him of the efforts made by the Contadora Group to find a negotiated solution for Central American problems.

It was also reported in Managua that San Salvador Archbishop Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas has been invited to events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Augusto Cesar Sandino, to be held on 21 February. On this occasion, Ortega will announce the date and type of elections that will be held in Nicaragua in 1985.

In addition to the invitation extended to Rivera y Damas, the Nicaraguan Government has confirmed that Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, former Venezuelan President Andres Perez, and other Latin American and European officials will attend the event.

CASEY SAYS CIA AID TO CONTRAS WILL CONTINUE

FL091530 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1240 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The United States Government will continue financing activities of ex-Somozist guardsmen who attack Nicaragua from Honduras, CIA Director William Casey has said. According to THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, Casey made the statement during closed-door hearings held by the Senate and House Intelligence and Armed Services Committees.

The newspaper added that, according to Casey, the CIA will need an additional $20 to $50 million in 1984 to continue its so-called secret war against Nicaragua and another $50 million in 1985. The U.S. Congress approved $24 million to cover the period up to June 1984 for the financing of counterrevolutionary groups with bases in Honduras. This is in addition to another $50 million granted earlier.

NICARAGUAN OFFICER CITED ON CONTRA CASUALTIES

FL091430 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Commander Alfonso Porras has disclosed that counterrevolutionary forces have sustained more than 700 casualties in the Jinotega and Matagalpa regions in the past 60 days. Porras, who is the FSLN political secretary in the sixth region, stated that this figure includes 200 dead, 233 deserters, and approximately 200 counter-revolutionaries who entered Nicaragua to turn themselves over to the authorities.

In addition, a news conference was held in Matagalpa last night to present 1 Honduran soldier and 8 Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries who were captured in the northern region.

Meanwhile, the Defense Ministry reported in Managua that 14 rebels were killed in fighting in Jinotega, on the border with Honduras, in the past 24 hours.

COSTA RICA SHIFTS GUARDS AT NICARAGUAN BORDER

PA092245 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] In an effort to uphold the statute on perpetual neutrality proclaimed by President Luis Alberto Monge, the Costa Rican Civil Police have assumed control of six important posts on the Nicaraguan border following prolonged polemics with other institutions charged with guarding Costa Rica's northern frontier.

According to official reports in San Jose, Civil Guard detachments replaced Rural Police guards in the border localities of (Boca de San Carlos), (Delta de Costa Rica), (Tiricias de San Carlos), (El Cedro), (La Prensa), and (Las Tablillas). The step was taken after it was confirmed that Rural guardsman Neftali Rodriguez Cibaja received a bullet wound from an AK-47 rifle, which is not a weapon used by any Costa Rican police corps, but is used by the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups led by Eden Pastora.

In announcing this step, Civil Police Chief Colonel Oscar Vidal confirmed that orders have been issued to capture Pastora if he is found in Costa Rican territory. He stressed that his subordinates are under strict orders to prevent armed Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups from operating in the area.

HONDURAN ARMY SERGEANT ON HELP GIVEN TO CONTRAS

FL091934 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] A Honduran Army sergeant has stated that his country helps the Nicaraguan counterrevolution by providing helicopters, planes, and military personnel.

Donaldo Carcamo Ramos, who surrendered to Sandinist officials, explained the methods used by the Honduran Armed Forces to support attacks on Nicaragua. Carcamo said that instructors from Argentina, the United States, and Honduras, as well as ex-Somozist guardsmen are training the anti-Sandinists.

COMMENTARY VIEWS SALVADORAN CRISIS, ELECTIONS

PA090417 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 9 Feb 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] During a fast and unexpected operation last weekend, Salvadoran FMLN guerrillas occupied nine villages and an important stretch of the Northern Trunk Highway in Chalatenango Department. The rebels defeated the well-trained troops of the special Ramon Belloso Counterinsurgency Battalion and forced reinforcements to withdraw toward the Colima Bridge, without having engaged in combat.

With this new operation, the FMLN has secured control over slightly more than 90 percent of Chalatenango Department. A comparable extension of land is under its control in Morazan Department, while other extensive and important portions of El Salvador have been occupied by the rebels on a temporary basis, in a show of force and capacity for action seldom before seen in this kind of guerrilla warfare, as military specialists have admitted.

The deterioration of the Salvadoran Army's situation is of increasing concern to the U.S. Government, which is taking accelerated steps to bolster the Salvadoran regime economically and militarily.

The hundreds of millions of dollars that Washington has earmarked for this goal are no longer sufficient. President Ronald Reagan is attempting to multiply U.S. military aid to El Salvador fivefold in 1984 and 1985; at the same time he is attempting to convince important sectors of the U.S. Congress and the U.S. public that only a direct action by U.S. Marines could prevent what he calls the communist advance in Central America.

Many observers believe that before plunging into an interventionist adventure the United States will await the results of the elections, which at Washington's urging have been convoked by the Salvadoran regime for 25 March. These elections have already been denounced by the guerrilla forces as one more farcical attempt by the dictatorship to entrench itself in power. Even many political sectors of the U.S. Government doubt that the elections will provide any type of solution to the Salvadoran crisis. U.S. Senator Christopher Dodd stated last week that the Salvadoran elections will be nothing more than a new masquerade by the military to attempt to win the trust of the U.S. Congress, so as to reduce restrictions on further military aid.

In his traditional Sunday homily, San Salvador Archbishop Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas criticized the presidential candidates for the March general elections, saying that they speak of peace and condemn violence, while doing nothing to achieve their announced goals. The bishop added that thousands of dollars are being spent on the elections, while the people are suffering from hunger and poverty and the political violence derived from the unjust social conditions in El Salvador continues. He reported that 75 persons were killed in El Salvador last week as a consequence of the political terror unleashed by the government, while another 18 were victims of arbitrary arrests. He stressed that 45,000 Salvadorans have died in El Salvador in the past 5 years, not including those who have fallen in combat, from the same cause. Msgr Rivera y Damas said in conclusion that until a political solution is sought, there will be no peace in El Salvador.

Most Latin American countries are of the same opinion; thus the peace efforts of the Contadora Group's four nations during the past year have been directed toward such a solution.

It is evident that the United States is not interested in a peaceful solution to the Salvadoran and Central American crises. That is why it has constantly attempted to sabotage the Contadora Group's initiatives and impose its warmongering policies on the region.

GUATEMALAN ATTITUDE TOWARD BELIZE NOTED

PA092251 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Guatemala is continuing to refuse to acknowledge Belize's independence as long as no settlement meeting its interests is reached between the Guatemalan and British Governments. Talks between British and Guatemalan diplomats are continuing, but no agreement has been reached thus far.

Guatemala asserts that Great Britain unilaterally granted independence to Belize in 1981 and that it feels the concessions it received from Belize -- control of routes to the Caribbean, perpetual use of two Belizean cays, and use of ports without fiscal limitations -- are insufficient.

Belize has declared that it will respect the agreements signed in London in 1981, but will not cede a single centimeter of its territory to Guatemala.

Meanwhile, Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Party of Guatemala, has charged that death squads have resumed activities in his country to suppress the activities of political organizations during the coming election campaign. Simultaneously, the Guatemalan Government reiterated the call to elections for a Constituent Assembly in July and publicly confirmed that Guatemala will remain under the state of siege [as heard].

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran asserted that the military will guarantee the process and said that the United Nations and the OAS have been officially invited to attend as observers. However, Mario Solorzano, leader of the Democratic Socialist Party, has insisted that the traditional political model based on repression guarantees the failure of the so-called democratic opening announced by General Oscar Mejia Victores' regime.

Also, the New Citizen Action [Nueva Accion Ciudadana], a newly emerged Guatemalan party composed of military personnel forced to retire following the coup staged by Mejia, has declared that conditions are not right at this moment to hold elections in Guatemala.

LATE REPORT: DEATH OF YURIY ANDROPOV REPORTED

FL101210 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] We wish to report to all our people that Comrade Yuriy Andropov, the highest Soviet leader, has just passed away.

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers wish to announce, with profound regret, to the party and all Soviet people that on 9 February at 1651 the secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR passed away.

The name of Yuriy Andropov, an outstanding personality of the Soviet Communist Party and state, a firm fighter for communism's ideals and for peace, will always remain in the hearts of all Soviet people and of all progressive humankind.

DEFENSE GROUP MEETS; ST CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS JOINS

FL090212 Bridgetown CANA in English 2234 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 8 (CANA) -- The Council of Ministers of the Eastern Caribbean Security System, including four heads of government, last night admitted St Kitts-Nevis into the organisation that is expected to evolve into a regional defence force, an official statement here said today. St Kitts-Nevis Prime Minister Dr Kennedy Simmonds signed a memorandum of understanding already in existence between Barbados, Antigua-Barbuda, St Lucia, St Vincent, and Dominica to formally gain entry into the system.

The Bridgetown meeting, chaired by Barbados' Prime Minister Tom Adams, reviewed the first year's operations of the system and looked at arrangements for the contribution of the participating countries to the maintenance of law and order in Grenada until elections are held later this year. Along with Jamaica, all the countries involved in the system took part in last October's U.S.-led invasion of Grenada. They have soldiers and policemen on the island in a joint peace-keeping force with the United States.

"The meeting considered the strengthening of the regional security system and also received and studied a report on the implications of the establishment of a regional defence force," the statement said. The security system came into being a year ago when the leaders of Barbados, St Vincent, St Lucia, Antigua-Barbuda, and Dominica signed the memorandum of understanding in Dominica, providing for cooperation in security matters. The leaders today raised the question of the establishment of the regional defence force in a meeting with visiting U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Shultz pledged that Washington would study how it can help.

Prime Ministers John Compton of St Lucia and Milton Cato of St Vincent attended the meetings here, along with Antigua-Barbuda's Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird, Charles Savarin, a minister in the Dominica Cabinet, director general of the Organisation of East Caribbean States Dr Vaughn Lewis, and a representative of Grenada's interim government.

Adams left unclear how much putting the security arrangement on a firmer footing -- having one regional army instead of the present groups of personnel -- would cost, but Antigua-Barbuda Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird said the figure of 100 million dollars (U.S.) had been "bandied around" during today's meeting with Shultz. Bird also said that the countries involved in the pact were thinking of having a defence force about 1,800 strong.

Adams said he was heartened by Shultz's response to Caribbean leaders' stated need to beef up security in the region. He conceded, however: "We have had some difficulties in so far as we've found that the American attitude outside the Grenada intervention (last October) has tended to be bilateral rather than multilateral. They have approached each island and, very generously, they have offered special training to the police special service units and to military units to each island. But they seemed to have been a little hesitant about dealing with the regional security system as a body."

He added: "I put to Mr Shultz that they had little difficulty dealing with NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation), that they don't find it necessary to speak individually to the German Chancellor or the British prime minister about problems involving the regional security of Western Europe, and I think that the argument appeared to fall on fertile ground, and I therefore think that we have at least set the ground-work for American support of the regional security system and its expansion."

Adams said expansion of the regional security system would depend on more financial resources and "the further refinement of the political attitude of its members towards the concept of a Caribbean defence force." One of the recommendations, Adams added, was "the abandonment of individual defence forces and the incorporation of the existing forces into a regional force which would have a unified command under general political direction."

He said the group of islands involved in the security scheme might have to permit "some diversity on the part of members of the system who do not go on the whole way with its concept." Equally, he added, "it may prove that our ideas are more expensieve than the resources available to us."

Adams said the size force being envisaged "is less in number, although perhaps not less in armament, than the size of the force in Grenada, for which Maurice Bishop had entered into treaty arrangements with the Soviet Union, North Korea, and other countries." He added: "We're not thinking of an enormous force, but we are thinking of a force which will cost the islands a good deal more than they are spending at the moment. The expenditure is not beyond consideration for Barbados, but for the other islands the expenditure would be considerable and I envisage that negotiations will have to go on for some time, with the United States as a potential donor of cash, with Britain and also with Canada -- all countries with whom we have had security relations at some time in the past." In the first three years of such a defence force, the money spent would be "less than we're spending on the Barbados Defence Force," the Barbadian leader remarked.

Commenting on the size of the force, Bird told CANA Caribbean leaders had suggested "1,800 men in the regional security force." He said his estimate of the cost of establishing the force and running it over a period was "approximately in the region of 100 million U.S. dollars." He added: "The figure was suggested at the meeting." He said it involved the question of paying for the Caribbean peace-keeping force now in Grenada "which these islands can't afford to continue," plus purchases of coast guard boats and helicopters.

During his meeting with Shultz, Adams also touched on the security of the territorial interests of the major Western powers. "Today I pointed out to the Americans that the eastern Caribbean doesn't only consist of the small islands," he said, "but that Venezuela, France, Britain, and the United States are also eastern Caribbean powers -- all of them have islands in the eastern Caribbean and a physical presence in the eastern Caribbean. To that I might add the Dominican Republic and the Netherlands."

He added: "I myself think that security is indivisible, that sooner or later every island in the eastern Caribbean is going to have some kind of worry about security. An independent Netherlands Antilles would be more vulnerable than any of us when you consider the distances that separate Curacao from St Maarten and the limited populations. The French in Martinique and Guadeloupe already have their difficulties with terrorism and minority independence movements. The Americans have difficulties in the United States Virgin Isalnds and in Puerto Rico. The Venezuelans perhaps have never had any type at all of internal unrest, but there is a whole chain of islands...that stretch from Grenada all the way through Margarita right to the Dutch Islands -- Curacao and Aruba."

Trinidad Urged To Join

FL091901 Bridgetown CANA in English 1630 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 9 (CANA) -- Barbados, recommending a more positive approach to Caribbean affairs, has urged Trinidad and Tobago to join a regional defence scheme involving six countries and also to send a police contingent to Grenada to help maintain law and order. Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams said Trinidad and Tobago had not been asked to join the Eastern Caribbean Security scheme initially because it was felt that the oil-rich, twin-island state would refuse. But, he told reporters, he hoped the Trinidad and Tobago Government would "abandon its negative attitudes" and join Barbados, St Vincent and The Grenadines, St Kitts and Nevis, Dominica, St Lucia, and Antigua and Barbuda as a member of the pact.

Adams also said, during a news conference yesterday, that he was in favour of Trinidad and Tobago sending policemen to Grenada, where U.S. and Caribbean security personnel have been helping the island's police force keep order in the aftermath of last October's American-led invasion. Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Belize, and the Bahamas had reservations about the military intervention and none of the four sent forces to the island. Adams told reporters: "I myself have never hidden the fact that I would very much like to have seen Trinidad and Tobago engaged in regionalism to a great extent. We never asked T and T to join the original regional security pact because we felt that the government would have refused and the attitude towards the Grenada operation has fortified us in that view."

He added: "I myself, however, remain very strongly committed to the hope that Trinidad will in the near future abandon its negative attitudes -- most decisions taken by Trinidad in recent years have been very negative ones -- and go on a more positive line and join with us in this particular initiative. It is not of an economic character, but it goes to our character as West Indians and it would be an act of regional fulfillment if Trinidad would join in these security operations. I personally would also be glad to see Trinidad and Tobago playing some part in the law and order operation in Grenada and whenever the matter has come up, my vote has always been cast in favour of encouragement of the sending of Trinidad policemen to Grenada to assist in the law and order operation."

SECURITY MEETING IN GRENADA REVIEWS SITUATION

FL091640 Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE in English 5 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] At the invitation of the Government of Grenada, representatives of the OECS, Barbados, Jamaica, and the United States met in St George's, Grenada, last week. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr Nicholas Brathwaite, Chairman of the Advisory Council of Grenada, to review arrangements pertaining to security and other related matters consequent upon the multinational forces intervention on October 25, last year.

In his welcoming address, Mr Brathwaite placed on record Grenada's deep gratitude and sincere thanks for the military assistance rendered by the countries concerned in mounting the rescue mission launched on October 25 and expressed the hope for further efforts at regional co-operation. The chairman of the OECS, Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, in reply welcomed the opportunity for Heads of Government to meet in Grenada. She recognised the difficult tasks which Grenada was faced with but, nevertheless, hoped that the Advisory Council will do all in its power to hold general elections at the earliest possible opportunity. The meeting reviewed the security situation in Grenada and considered reports on future arrangements for the maintenance of law and order for the period leading up to elections, including arrangements for finance.

The meeting received reports on the number and position of persons presently detained in Grenada and noted that the review tribunal established for this purpose was continuing to process applications from the detainees for their release. The meeting was informed that the Advisory Council was giving consideration to the establishment of a commission of enquiry into the events leading up to October 19, 1983.

The matter of continued assistance in the maintenance of law and order from the countries presently participating in the multi-national forces was also considered, and the meeting discussed the question of assistance from additional sources. It was agreed that proposals discussed at the meeting in respect to arrangements for personnel, equipment, and financing for the security forces would be finalized for the consideration of the Advisory Council of Grenada. The meeting was also informed of the views of the Advisory Council on the question of completion of the International Airport at Point Salines and of the Council's hope for donor assistance in this respect.

BARBADOS

ADAMS 'NOT SURPRISED' BY U.S. UNESCO WITHDRAWAL

FL090226 Bridgetown CANA in English 2350 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 8 (CANA) -- Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams today said he was not surprised by the United States' decision to withdraw from the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) by year end. "I'm surprised the Americans haven't done it before," Adams said during a news conference. The United States said it would pull out of UNESCO because the organization had become too politicized, had misused its budget, and threatened press freedom. Adams said: "You can't go on forever and ever...being abused endlessly by radical countries who hold their hands out for your money and slap you in your face with the other hand without reacting. I know that in the Caribbean, nobody is willing to do it.... I am not prepared to go on record as blaming any country which says enough is enough."

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT PLANS TO RESTRUCTURE SOME MINISTRIES

FL091916 Bridgetown CANA in English 1746 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 9 (CANA) -- The Jamaica Government says it is undertaking a major reform of the public sector, starting with the restructuring of the ministries concerned with the public purse and employment. An internal-ministerial committee on administrative reform, which will oversee the program, had its first meeting this week, Prime Minister Edward Seaga has announced. Seaga said that the reform of public sector management was being undertaken as part of the structural adjustment program for the Jamaican economy. The idea is to enhance efficiency and productivity in the public sector, raise prestige in the public service, and improve morale.

A number of task forces, which will report to the wider inter-ministerial committee, will work on specific areas of the reforms, assisted by a team of World Bank consultants who have already done management audits on various aspects of the public sector. The start was being made with the Ministries of Finance and the Public Service since they were the most critical to government programs. The government said among the issues to be addressed were improved compensation for management, professional, and technical personnel, and improvement and modernization of the human resource management in the public sector, including the decentralization of decisionmaking in certain key areas.

Said Seaga: "Government is committed to the continuation of the program until all areas of administrative practices are reviewed and the civil service is streamlined to meet the growing needs of public administration." Critical to this, the prime minister added, "is the computerization of data relating to personnel in the civil service, so as to enable a profile to be prepared to give the government, for the first time, a complete picture of the composition of the civil service in terms of basic skills, age groups, sex, professional capabilities, temporary and permanent positions, etc. This information is vital to the assessment of areas of the service which require priority treatment in any overall assessment."

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

TRINIDAD GUARDIAN CRITICIZES SURINAME'S BOUTERSE

FL091730 Bridgetown CANA in English 1645 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Feb 9 (CANA) -- The TRINIDAD GUARDIAN newspaper today called on Suriname's military strongman Desi Bouterse to dismantle his military control over the former Dutch colony and make way for general elections. The paper felt this was the first step that Bouterse should take in restoring to the people of Suriname the freedom and democracy which he "destroyed" on taking power by an Army coup from the elected Dr Henk Chin A Sen government four years ago.

The paper's statement came in response to Bouterse's reported plans for a nation-wide literacy campaign and the creation of "a new form of democracy through the establishment of new democratic structures" in the South American state. The GUARDIAN found it "quite bizarre" that the Surinamese military strongman believed he could fool the people of Suriname and the rest of the Caribbean with such statements.

"...Bouterse seems more determined than ever to maintain his totalitarian grip on the former Dutch colony," the paper said. The paper also suggested that Bouterse had not learned anything from the "miserable failure" of the leftist Maurice Bishop regime which collapsed in Grenada last October, and Suriname since the February 1980 coup.

"Bouterse must know that there is no other form of democracy in the world than that exercised by the people of a country in choosing their government through free and fair elections," declared the paper. It added that until the Suriname strongman dismantles his military control and makes way for election, "all talk about setting up new democratic structures by Bouterse is simply blowing in the wind."

The paper saw Bouterse's recent appointment of the country's fifth government since his take-over coupled with a pledge by trade unions and private sector organizations to support the new group as one which Bouterse hopes would encourage the Dutch Government to resume its 90 million-dollar (U.S.) a year development aid program. The flow of funds was stopped from the Netherlands following the reported torture and killing of 15 Surinamese opponents of the government in December 1982.

"We would expect that the Dutch Government would first obtain from Bouterse a clear commitment to relinquish his military overlordship over the country and permitting a genuine return to democracy within a specific time frame before agreeing to any resumption of aid," said the GUARDIAN. Without this verifiable commitment, the paper felt that any aid from the Netherlands to Bouterse would simply be conferring official recognition to "the bloody record of his so-called revolution."

COLOMBIA

M-19 COMMUNIQUE ACKNOWLEDGES BATEMAN DEATH

PA090421 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Bogota -- The 19 April Movement [M-19] today acknowledged that Jaime Bateman, the guerrilla organization's supreme leader and founder, was killed in a plane crash in Panama on 28 April 1983. Commander Bateman died on Panamanian soil, sister soil, Latin American soil, the M-19 stated in a long clandestine communique it submitted to the media a few hours ago.

The group asked President Belisario Betancur to order that the body be turned over to Bateman's relatives. Clementina Cayon, Bateman's mother, is in Panama waiting for her son's remains to be turned over to her by Panama's National Guard.

FARC MURDERS SOME 30 PEASANTS IN 48 HOURS

PA081938 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Cimitarra -- Large contingents from the 14th military brigade stationed in Puerto Berrio are continuing to pursue the outlawed Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, columns that have murdered more than 30 peasants in the Middle Magdalena region in the last 2 days.

According to official reports, one of the FARC fronts attacked several farms, including one belonging to (Antonio Duque Alvarez), high commissioner of peace for the Middle Magdalena region in Puerto Berrio, where several peasants were kidnapped. The guerrillas had previously entered the La Traviata and Las Palmas farms, where they beheaded 14 peasants between Sunday and Tuesday after accusing them of belonging to the Death to Kidnappers group, MAS, and of being Army informants.

ECUADOR

FEBRES CORDERO THREATENS TO WITHDRAW FROM RUNOFF

PA091352 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0927 GMT 9 Feb 84

[By Nestor Arboleda]

[Excerpt] Quito, 9 Feb (EFE) -- Leon Febres Cordero, who is the presidential candidate of the Social Christian Party and a coalition of rightist groups, last night warned that he will not run in the second round of elections if the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE) is not reorganized. According to provisional estimates, Febres Cordero and Social Democrat Rodrigo Borja will be the only candidates in the second round of balloting. However, the rightist candidate has accused the TSE of promoting a "fraud" to "steal victory from him" in the 29 January elections. He bases this charge on the organizational deficiencies seen during those elections. Febres Cordero wants the elections law changed so that the list of voters can be restructured. The current law establishes that the second round of elections must employ the lists used for the first round.

If Febres Cordero's threat becomes a reality, a controversy would arise that would be unforeseen by the Constitution or any law.

GUYANA

VICE PRESIDENT HOYTE ON LAND ACQUISITION LAW

FL091708 Bridgetown CANA in English 1640 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 9, CANA -- Guyana's Vice President for Production Desmond Hoyte has rejected suggestions that a new acquisition law aimed at putting idle acreage into production will give too much power to the minister of agriculture.

Hoyte, who piloted the Acquisition of Lands Not Beneficially Occupied Bill (1983) through the National Assembly, said it will give the government authority to bring such areas into productive use by whatever means it sees fit to remove squatters.

Opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) front-bencher Reepu Daman Persaud tried unsuccessfully to get the bill amended to make provision for a tribunal instead of a minister as the authority for enforcing the act. He described the bill as untimely and unnecessary since it was being presented at a time when the country's agriculture sector was in a depressed state. Persaud said that hundreds of farmers were leaving the land because of poor drainage and irrigation, lack of machinery and spare parts, and poor access roads to their farms. He did not agree that land left idle was needed by the state, which he felt already had enough land to create state farms and carry out other works.

The bill, he said, carried no guarantee that small farmers will be protected from big land owners, and he called on governments to arrange some form of crop insurance for the nation's farmers.

PANAMA

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON PASTORA REQUEST

PA100238 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega Duran has said that Commander Eden Pastora's request that Contadora Group countries welcome former ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] militants to their territory must be made separately to each government.

[Begin Ortega recording] First of all, I would like to say that the Contadora Group is not a government. In any case, this request should be directed separately to each individual government; that is, to the governments of the Contadora Group countries. As far as Panama is concerned, the status of the people there would have to be defined far in advance to determine if they fall into the refugee category. The UNHCR, which is the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, outlines procedures to be followed in cases like this. Therefore, their status would have to be previously defined. In the particular case of Panama and other Contadora Group governments, this situation must be handled with great care to prevent harming the spirit and attitude of the Contadora Group -- a spirit and attitude that at this moment must be very objective. However, if these groups continue their warmongering policy, the participation of Panama and other governments as mediators would be noticeably and appreciably affected.

PERU

'TERRORISTS' SLAY 27 CAMPESINOS IN AYACUCHO

PY091437 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Presumed terrorists have stabbed to death 27 campesinos in Ayacucho. The attack was reportedly carried out as a reprisal because the victims had been informing the police about the terrorists; these reports cannot be confirmed yet. All 27 campesinos, among them men, women, and children, were tortured before they were stabbed to death by the terrorist commandoes in the main square in the town of Huarco, 17 km from Ayacucho.

Before the campesinos were stabbed to death, the presumed Shining Path members subjected the campesinos to a people's trial, charging them with reporting their presence to the security forces.

SURINAME

NEW PREMIER PROMISES TO COMBAT NATION'S ENEMIES

PM091315 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 6 Feb 84 pp 1, 5

[ANP report: "Udenhout Will Combat Enemies of 'Revolution'"]

[Text] Paramaribo/The Hague, 6 Feb -- The Surinamese interim cabinet faces immense and very complicated political and economic problems, Prime Minister Udenhout said in a speech after his installation printed in the daily DE WARE TIJD.

According to Udenhout, decisions must be taken with determination to help the Surinamese people regain their self-confidence.

Udenhout said that some Surinamers place individual or group interests above the national interest. "Some people have ended up in the area of enmity toward the nation. They must be combatted," Udenhout said. The prime minister spoke of people who "through well-intentioned but repeated untactical behavior and through exotic interpretations of the Surinamese revolution" have caused a large number of the people to live in a state of apathy and cynicism, which is threatening to attack the nation's backbone.

Prime Minister Udenhout said nothing in his speech about relations between Suriname and the Netherlands. When questioned, he replied that he considers these relations to be "so sensitive and so important" that he is currently unwilling to answer questions about them.

Yesterday, Surinamese industrial organizations failed to find candidates for the two remaining ministerial posts of finance and health. Former Finance Minister Chehin and rice merchant P. Radakishun are said to have declined ministerial posts for business reasons.